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THREEPENCE.
Stamped Edition, 4d.

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Instituted 1864.

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FREDERIC ANDREW, Secretary.

Office, 10, Poultry.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.

THE SESSION will commence on TUESDAY, 1st November, 1864. AN ADDRESS to the STUDENTS will be delivered by Principal Sir DAVID BREWSTER, on MONDAY, November 14, at Two o'clock.

Full details as to Classes, Examinations, Degrees, &c., in the Faculties of Arts, Divinity, Law, and Medicine, together with a list of the General Council, will be found in the Edinburgh University Calendar, 1864-65, published by Messrs. MacLachlan & Stewart, South Bridge, Edinburgh, price 2s. 6d., per post, 2s. 10d.

By authority of the Senatus.

ALEX. SMITH, Sec. to the University.

September, 1864.

SCOTTISH NATIONAL MEMORIAL

TO
H.R.H. THE PRINCE CONSORT.

In answer to numerous Communications which have been addressed to the Committee of Advice, intimation is hereby made that MODELS and DRAWINGS of DESIGNS for the SCOTTISH NATIONAL MEMORIAL may be furnished on any smaller scale than that of one inch to the foot, which an Artist may prefer, in those cases where adherence to the scale prescribed would render the Model or Drawing excessive or inconvenient in size.

W. S. WALKER, Honorary Secretary.

135, George-street, Edinburgh, Oct. 7, 1864.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF SCOTLAND.

THE NINTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the Society will be OPENED about the MIDDLE of DECEMBER. Works intended for Exhibition should be sent to the Secretary, Mr. J. G. GORDON, No. 26, GEORGE-STREET, EDINBURGH, on 15th of November next, after which none can be received. Silver Medals will be awarded for

The Best View, taken by a dry process: the details of the Process to be communicated to the Society.
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The Best Group.
The Best Portrait.

For further information, and copies of the Regulations of the Exhibition, application may be made to the Honorary Secretary, No. 4, St. Andrew-square.

T. B. JOHNSTON, Hon. Sec.

Edinburgh, 6th October, 1864.

AGRICULTURAL HALL,

ISLINGTON.

NORTH LONDON WORKING CLASSES' INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION will be OPENED on MONDAY, October 17, 1864, by EARL RUSSELL, K.G., at Three o'clock p.m. The Musical Arrangements will be under the direction of Mr. R. Glen Wesley, Miss Louisa Payne, Miss Leffer, Mr. E. Galer, Mr. Lewis Thomas, and a Choir of 1,000 Voices. A Special Ode has been Written, and will be Sung on the Occasion. Dr. S. S. Wesley, of Winchester Cathedral, will preside at Willis's Grand Organ, and perform a Solo.—Body of the Hall, 2s. 6d.; Galleries, 1s. Tickets to be obtained at the Agricultural Hall, or of the Secretary, as under. On Tuesday, the 18th, the Exhibition will be opened daily, until further notice. Price of Admission, Nine till Five, 6d.; Seven till Ten, 3d.; Children under Ten, Half-price.

W. J. WATTS, Hon. Sec.

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PROFESSOR DONALDSON'S LECTURES on Architecture and Construction, at UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, will COMMENCE on TUESDAY next, October 18th. Particulars can be had at the Office of the College. The Professor will meet the Pupils of both Divisions at Six in the Evening to arrange details.

ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY,

A Show of FRUIT and VEGETABLES will take place on WEDNESDAY the 19th. Doors open at 1 o'clock. Admission 5s. 6d.

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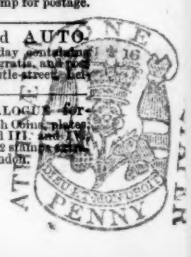
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LONDON, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1864.

LITERATURE

Memoirs of the Life and Ministry of the Rev. Thomas Raffles, D.D. By Thomas Stamford Raffles, Esq., B.A. (Jackson, Walford & Hodder.)

ALL that the general public will desire to know about the late Dr. Raffles may be easily told in a few columns. All that his friends may be disposed to read may as easily be lengthened out to five hundred pages, as in the volume before us. Limiting ourselves to the few columns, and leaving these bulky "Memoirs" uncut for a brief while, we may present a pen-and-ink sketch of the deceased dissenting minister.

What his parents were, what he himself was as a young minister at Hammersmith—a dismal suburban village in his young days—is of no moment to any one but his family circle. It was as "Raffles of Liverpool" that the dissenting world knew and admired him, and to Liverpool, therefore, we at once travel. A young minister of great promise, who preceded him there, had been drowned while bathing in the Mersey, in early manhood. Then, as now, there was a strong inclination to glorify young preachers, and to find or fancy in them budding of extraordinary genius. "Young Raffles" removed to Liverpool as a preacher of the Independent denomination, and came in upon a spring tide of popular favour, which bore him on to fame and fortune.

His style of pulpit teaching was said at that time to be flowery and rather flimsy. However, he hit the taste of the mass of those people who were disposed to frequent a chapel at all, and an increasing number frequented his in particular. As Liverpool grew in population and wealth so did his congregation grow. What Dr. McNeile became in the church Dr. Raffles became in the chapel; but the former being still alive and at his church, we shall not pursue the comparison. By a prudent course of public conduct, by avoiding unpopular controversy, by shunning pulpit polemics, by cultivating amicable relations with his fellow townsmen of influence and name, Dr. Raffles won the good-will of the entire community at Liverpool, and retained it by the same means. Some bolder spirits called this a time-serving policy; but what should a man who is resolved to live comfortably do but follow a Scriptural warrant—"As much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men"? This minister did live peaceably with all men, and naturally enough they lived peaceably with him. Were all preachers to observe the same policy, they would pass much easier and happier lives than they do. When one may grow fat by policy, why grow thin by polemics?

So popular a preacher as Dr. Raffles was sure to be the observed of all observing single ladies in the same latitude. He himself also observed not merely the times and the seasons, but the ladies who were marriageable, and came to a very safe and happy conclusion when he wedded the only daughter of a wealthy gentleman. Some men who marry only daughters, get a cross as well as a carriage. How many clergymen do we not all know, who took up their cross the day they were taken up into their wife's carriage! Dr. Raffles, however, was the luckiest of ministers, for he found a treasure in and treasure with his wife.

It seems strange to many that a minister who rides in his carriage to his church or chapel should become increasingly attractive in the pulpit. Yet nothing is more natural, nothing is

in stricter accordance with human nature. A man who walks from his house to his pulpit must needs be a sorry sort of fellow, and an indifferent preacher. If he were eloquent, if he were good-looking, or even tolerably personable, if he were captivating in mien and manner, are there not everywhere a dozen well-dowered ladies who would willingly give him a seat in their carriage? Therefore (a perfect social syllogism),—therefore, we affirm, a preacher who does not ride in his carriage is evidently a poor preacher; and therefore, again, a preacher who does ride in his carriage is evidently a good preacher, and people, noting this evident token of his excellence, go to hear him who never thought of hearing him before. Were deacons and churchwardens wise, they would "job" a carriage for their ministers, for the outlay would be far more than repaid in additional pew-rents. How can a man with dusty or muddy boots preach at all?

When Dr. Raffles's chapel was burnt down, great attention was, of course, directed to him; and his friends, having a pastor who rode in his carriage, determined to raise for him a handsome new structure. Accordingly, an imposing and commodious chapel arose in Great George Street, and when the minister also rose in the new pulpit for the first time, he found himself considerably the better for the fire. His salary now was 700*l.* per annum. What more could any minister desire on earth? A crowded sanctuary, a fine-toned organ, everything around him not only decent and in order, but even luxurious and in fashion; and then, when service was over, a neat carriage to convey him home, where comforts and compliments awaited him, and where an affectionate and affluent wife was ready to minister, in her turn, to his every wish. Surely such a minister might have preached once a month from this same text:—"The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places—Yea, I have a goodly heritage." Yet, even a lot so fortunate must have a crook in it. The wife of his bosom died suddenly, as she lay by his side, without warning; and thus the tie of twenty-eight years was broken.

This is not the place in which to enlarge on Dr. Raffles's preaching ability. He was popular; and that, in the eyes of all deacons, is a cardinal virtue. If a man be not popular, he may preach like Gabriel, but it is all over with him, at least in this world. Even if a carriage contribute to popularity, there must be the substance before it can be increased. What actually constitutes pulpit popularity is quite another question, and one which would require a very wise and experienced man to answer. At least, we may say, it is not mere mental ability. There were ministers, the friends and contemporaries of Dr. Raffles, who could and did preach far more original and thoughtful sermons than his. There was, for instance, Dr. Hamilton, of Leeds, who, as a preacher and thinker, was confessedly far above his Liverpool friend; yet the latter bore off the palm, and Hamilton never arrived at a carriage. Dr. McAll, of Manchester, was a preacher of the very first order of eloquence, yet who knows even his name now-a-days? One natural gift may be noted in Dr. Raffles; he possessed a powerful and flexible voice, and held it in complete command for varying cadences and moods. Another point in his favour was, that he dealt largely in apostrophe, and a preacher who can apostrophize well, and without any timidity or apprehension of becoming undignified, will soon win the ear of the common people. Only, in whatever figure or fashion of speech the preacher may deal, whether in apostrophe, personification, or pathos, each and all

must appear to suit and befit him. If for one moment he becomes aware that his hearers are conscious of assumption and unnaturalness on his part, he is a lost man, mere sounding brass and a tinkling cymbal.

Thus much for Dr. Raffles in the pulpit. A sentence or two may appropriately follow respecting Dr. Raffles in the parlour and in society. In his day there were some genial ministers scattered over the northern counties. Perhaps, from possessing all the appliances of comparative wealth and health, popularity and prosperity, he appeared to be about the most genial of them all—at least, in the provinces around him. If not the most witty, he was certainly the most hospitable. Who that has tarried at his comfortable house at Edge Hill, Liverpool, does not remember his warm welcome, and the delight he displayed at his well-supplied table when it was graced by congenial friends? Who could better narrate, and who more thoroughly enjoyed narrating, a humorous anecdote of some brother minister, or some hearer, or some comical or distinguished layman? After a public dinner, also, at a chapel anniversary, or an ordination, or any of the Dissenting field-days, this clever and pantomimic story-teller would cheer the audience, and sometimes promote donations for a good cause, by appropriate anecdotes, which, if heard before, pleased again. If a little embellished, they answered the desired end all the better; and if people laughed long and loud, one expects to laugh after dinner, and laughter is a great relief after a long set sermon.

There were two other anecdotic parsons in the north of England at that time besides Dr. Raffles. These two perhaps excelled the Doctor, —one in narrative power and the other in genuine wit and conviviality. All three were passing fat and past forty; and when all the three got together in one house, the explosions of laughter were like parlour artillery. Two of these three story-tellers we have listened to; the third had not the moral ballast of the other two, and made shipwreck of faith and a good conscience.

Every good man has a hobby, and every hard-working man should have one. That of Dr. Raffles was the collection of autographs. Beginning early, being popular, and preaching many public sermons for various people, he had fine opportunities of indulging his pet passion. Considering that he rarely purchased, and most frequently begged, his autographic treasures, —considering, also, that he was otherwise engaged in the main,—the number of interesting autographs he amassed was remarkable. All these he had suitably arranged and suitably illustrated—one series alone consisting of forty folio volumes. To see him in his glory as a man, was to see him opening volume after volume of these treasures; and to hear him relate the circumstances connected with the acquisition of many of them gave additional zest to the exhibition. If he knew where there was a rare and desirable autograph, he would try all means to get it; and if preaching would help him, his proffer always was, a sermon for an autograph. Steal he could not, but to beg he was not ashamed.

The three anecdotists above alluded to were all remarkably fat men. Is there any connexion between humour and corpulence? Latterly, Dr. Raffles became uncomfortably corpulent. Banting would have given him up at first sight. Curiously, he began life with leanness, and speaks of himself as one of Pharaoh's lean kine. His condition was afterwards entirely reversed. When he visited the Pyramids, he said, "I had the moral courage

to remain below, without even making or contemplating the effort to ascend. I knew well that, with my bulk and difficulty of breathing, the effort would be vain and the idea absurd." When he visited Vesuvius, he had not the moral courage to stay at the bottom; but four poor Italians found the physical strength to carry him up in a chair, while even the good Doctor himself commiserated them. "It was hard at times," says he, "to cling to my crazy seat, and had I fallen, or had they fallen with me, I fancy some other hand than this must have written the dismal tale. But at length, after an hour's toil, such as I never saw mortal men endure before, they placed me on the summit." Did Pope or priest ever prescribe such a penance for the most hardened heretics?

The only extract we can offer from the "Memoirs" relates to a travelling incident on this same tour. The relation of it by the Doctor himself, to which we have listened, was, of course, very superior to the narration of it in this volume:—

"I think you expressed a wish that I might meet with some adventure. Well, I will give you one. We heard at Rome that we should have a very strict search at Fondi, on entering the Neapolitan territory; and so it happened and with curious circumstances that I did not anticipate. All went on well enough till, on opening my writing-desk, the first thing that presented itself was the pen-wiper—blue and red cloth, which I think made for me. In an instant the officers clutched it as though it had been the very concentration of treason; and they at once seized all my letters of introduction, which were in a bundle together, to the amount of twenty, and all the medical prescriptions, &c., and holding them (together with the unfortunate pen-wiper) manifested a purpose to retain them in their custody. I asked them 'What they were going to do with them?' 'Send them to Naples,' they said, 'to be examined by the police there.' 'But why not examine them here?' I said; and they replied, 'There is no one here that can read English.' 'And when,' I said, 'shall I have them again?' 'In fifteen days,' they answered. 'But I cannot stay fifteen days in Naples!' I added. 'I am going to the East, and these letters are essential to my journey.' 'Well then,' they replied, 'there is no other way but sealing them in a bag, and sending a soldier on the carriage, with you in charge, all the way to Naples.' And to this as the least evil of the two, we were obliged to submit; and with my books, and Dr. Halley's, and my letters (they did not see his letters) sealed up in a bag, and guarded by a soldier, like two State prisoners, we were escorted to Naples (seventy miles). For a long time I could not imagine what had made them so suspicious, and especially what there could be in the PEN-WIPER to cause its being thus placed under arrest. At length it occurred to me that being blue and red, and made up very much to resemble a COCKADE, they must have taken it for that very thing, and must have regarded me as another Mazzini, with cockades, and letters full of revolutionary and treasonable matter, coming to organize, or in some way to promote, a treasonable movement; and so, spite of the absurdity of the thing, it turned out to be; and when we sent, the day after our arrival, for the bag with its contents, they returned the letters and the pen-wiper, with a sort of apology, and admission that the officials at Fondi had somewhat gone beyond their limit, but the books were retained to be examined. They, however, were all restored, but Mr. Lewis's prescriptions must, I think, have been retained, for when I wanted them I could not find them amongst my papers, and I am pretty sure that I brought them with me. I suppose they found some treason in his pills, and the essence of revolution in his powders. I wish they may give them to the King, and that he may take them, and that they may do him good! Is not all this absurd? We told it to Mr. Close, at Naples, and he said he would tell his Majesty. He would be greatly amused by it. The ship rolls so I can write no more."

Having preached and visited for the prin-

cipal years of his life at Liverpool; having fulfilled his duties in the several private relations of life; having used his influence in favour of his eldest son, and having really extracted from this fleeting existence about as much enjoyment as it can afford to any man, the good Doctor shuffled off this mortal coil and died in the odour of sanctity, at a good old age. The decease of a man who had for forty-nine years been the principal Dissenting minister in Liverpool, very naturally occasioned much feeling in the town. Thousands lined the streets at his funeral, and all parties were disposed to forget his denomination in recognizing his good citizenship.

There is nothing more to say of Dr. Raffles to the general public. As to his letters, diaries, notes on cities and countries which every travelling Englishman has now visited; as to details of his private and ministerial life, the chapels he preached in, the people at whose houses he stayed, the little pleasantries he enjoyed, and the little commotions his popularity excited, are they not all written in the chronicle of his 'Memoirs' now on our table? Those who seek them may find them there, duly strung together, with correct dates.

In reflecting upon such a man's life and departure, one cannot but feel how evanescent a thing mere pulpit popularity is, and how purely local and ephemeral is personal acceptance. If any man desires to be remembered even for a few years after his decease beyond his town and his family, he must write and publish. If he cannot do so, then the most ponderous accumulation of his scraps and correspondence will fail to keep his name alive longer than the brief period during which they are passing under the reviewer's notice and the public eye.

Mysteries of Neapolitan Cloister Life; being Memoirs of Henrietta Caracciolo, of the Family of the Princes of Forino—[Misteri del Chiostro Napoletano, &c.] (Florence, Barbèra.)

THE book before us made its appearance in Florence a few weeks ago, and has already reached its fourth edition. Such a measure of success, marked as it would be in other countries, is, in Italy, except in the case of political brochures which deal with the vital questions of the hour, a thing almost unparalleled. The title of the volume would seem to class it among the too well known, highly-seasoned and unscrupulous products of religious party warfare, whose action rather tends to weaken than to aid the arguments which strike at the root of monachism. Such a title as 'The Mysteries of the Neapolitan Cloister' appears to promise a banquet of the choicest horrors—abductions, assassinations, walled-up victims, convent cruelties, and other such tragical interludes. But, in truth, there is not much in the pages of Signora Caracciolo's book to recommend them to the notice of the *gourmets* of emotional literature; and what there is wears rather a homely, repellent, work-a-day aspect. The true cause of the fervour with which these 'Mysteries' have been received by the Italian public is the seal of truth set upon them by the absence of all mystery as regards their authoress. Her family is one of the noblest and most ancient in Southern Italy; her antecedents and those of her parents are well known to a great part of her readers; and no shadow of doubt exists as to the truth of the main facts of her sorrowful story.

Enrichetta Caracciolo was born at Naples in 1821, the youngest of a family of five sisters. Her father was a younger brother of the Prince of Forino, head of the ancient Neapolitan family

of Caracciolo, and her mother a Palermitan damsel, who, when barely fourteen, became the wife of the Marshal, then past middle life. Enrichetta's childhood and early youth were spent at Reggio, in Calabria. She describes herself as nervous and sensitive, the least loved child of a stern, high-handed mother, whose severe domestic rule was, however, tempered by the somewhat feckless kindness of a weak, good-natured, prematurely old father. There is little of interest in the author's detailed account of her early love-sorrows, except here and there a curious glimpse of the strange semi-Oriental kind of mute courtship, fed on glances and sighs only, and those, perchance, shot from the distance of a neighbouring street corner, by which means such affairs seem to be carried on by noble maidens of Southern Italy even in the nineteenth century.

The almost sudden death of the Marshal when Enrichetta was about eighteen left the widow and her five girls nearly penniless; and even before the interment could take place, she hurried to Naples with her two eldest daughters, to petition the King for the pension upon which they must henceforth live. The pension was granted, and an advantageous proposal of marriage was made about the same time for her daughter Giuseppina, whose marriage was fixed to take place before the return of the family to Reggio. But no good fortune was in store for poor Enrichetta, all whose hopes of obtaining the suitor of her choice had gone to the grave with her good-natured father, who, in a negative sort of fashion, had favoured her hopes. The widow, though at times she capriciously permitted the young man's visits to her house, had always looked on him coldly, and seized the first opportunity of formally and finally dismissing him. A very short time after this, partly by fair words, partly by compulsion, the poor girl found herself consigned to the care of one of her paternal aunts, the Abbess of the great Benedictine convent of San Gregorio Armeno, merely, as her mother declared to her, for a couple of months, as a provisional and prudential measure while she herself should be absent at Reggio, settling her affairs. Nor is a residence of a few months in a convent looked upon as anything very terrible in the author's caste and country, where every noble family may be said to contribute its quota of youthful flesh and blood to the Juggernaut of conventual rule. Enrichetta's mother had no dowry to bestow on her, and it was wise and well, she thought, that the girl should make early acquaintance with the establishment which might, very probably, be her ultimate home. Besides, she told her daughter that "she would find in its seclusion, not only a profusion of spiritual consolations, but, moreover, all the comforts suited to noble birth, and even the elegancies and innocent amusements of the fashionable world."

San Gregorio Armeno was indeed the choicest sanctuary in all Naples. It contained at that time no less than fifty-eight professed nuns, a great part of them young and almost all of noble family, besides lay-sisters, novices and pupils. For many a century no generation of the house of Caracciolo had passed away without giving some of its daughters to the Order, and what was more essential still, a handsome dowry at the time of their profession. Poor Enrichetta's tears and despair, therefore, were looked upon with small pity by the titled dames who accompanied her to the convent grille; and the crowd of curious, hoydenish, ill-bred *Eccellenze* who flocked about her in the cloisters, each with a pert question in barbarous dialect, whether she intended to take the veil, received her persistent denials with mocking laughter,

and the jeering reply, "St. Benedict will not let you escape him, when once you have put on his fleece."

We need not say at length how, half enjoined, half compelled, her former lover being faithless, her mother married again, the unhappy girl's stay of a few weeks was changed to her profession as a nun twenty months after her first reclusion. There she remained immured for nine miserable years, feared, hated, made a butt of, by the greater number of the sisterhood, in revenge for her too clearly displayed reluctance to sojourn among them; earnestly trying at first to be content with her bitter lot, and absorb herself in its duties, and afterwards as the falsehood of that convent life became more and more intolerable to her, striving as earnestly to obtain from Rome a release, not from her vows, but from the necessity of continual residence in the cloister. Nor was this an unparalleled, nor even a very rare petition, for many a professed nun is allowed, on the plea of ill-health, to visit and reside for a time with her family. But poor Enrichetta was by this time set apart by her spiritual superiors as an ill-disposed, dangerous subject. She was strongly suspected of making light of the miracles with which the convent was often favoured. She denied the necessity of continual and hour-long confession. Worst of all, she was a "woman who read," and who was accused of patriotic liberalism. No stone was to be left unturned to prevent her becoming a public scandal to the Order. Her worst enemy in this long struggle seems to have been the Archbishop of Naples, Cardinal Riario Sforza, a Prince of the Church who is not unfrequently named as standing fair for the Papal throne when Pius IX. shall have left it vacant. Very curious and instructive are the minute details given by Signora Caracciolo, as to the course of dissimulation, petty malice, and intrigue employed by this prelate, even to the intercepting of her letters to the Pope, to keep the would-be runaway in his power. She did at last outwit him, and obtained leave to spend a portion of her days at a married sister's, and her nights in a Conservatorio, or house of religious asylum. But from this temporary rest she was soon hunted out by the notorious Morbillo and his police agents, on a charge of political conspiracy against the late King. Once more shut up in a Penitentiary (il Ritiro di Mondragone), and this time exposed to all the rigours of a political as well as religious prison, her energy almost gone, her health reduced to a desperate condition, for two years and a half she ceased not to petition for release through the medium of some faithful friends at Rome; the Cardinal meanwhile laughing to scorn the certificates of her medical attendants, denying her permission to visit for a few hours her dying mother, although the very Papal Nunzio interceded for her, and the Princess of Ripa pledged herself to bring back the miserable prisoner to durance in her own carriage before night. Yet this same Cardinal was, about the same time, regarded by the populace of Naples as little less than a saint; and, when the cholera broke out in Naples, was by the lowest orders supposed to be gifted with miraculous powers of cure by the imposition of his hand on the head of the sick!

What were Riario Sforza's motives for allowing his tortured victim to escape at last, she of course never knew; but, when quite hopeless of success, she was permitted to go to the baths of Castellamare, "to recover her health," and from that day her worst sufferings were at an end. She subsequently returned to, and lived secretly in Naples; worked with heart and soul towards the emancipation of her country

from the Bourbon yoke; and when Garibaldi entered Naples in triumph on the 7th of September, 1860, laid down for ever her black veil on the altar of that church where she had received it nearly twenty years before. Later still she obtained the Dictator's formal authorization to return to the world and its ties—though such a sanction, of course, weighs less than nothing in the scales of ecclesiastical authority,—and she has married and settled in Naples, where she still lives.

Such is a meagre outline of the ex-nun's story. The real interest of the book, to our thinking, lies in the observations which the author records, from the life, of the influences of conventual reclusion upon the hearts and minds of its votaries. Confession, the authoress considers,—that is, the supreme power of the confessor in the Neapolitan nunneries,—lies at the root of nine-tenths of the evil. It is the cement which binds the whole mass together, and she says that, were the confessional closed in the convents of nuns, the nation might spare itself the trouble of making laws which should strike at the future of such establishments, for that she thinks "they would surely dissolve of themselves within a period of a few weeks." Each nun has a right to choose her own confessor, and to be closeted with him as often as she pleases, for hours at a time in the confessional, "a small closet (*gabinetto*) carefully shut in on every side, and furnished with a low bench for the convenience of sitting." She may make him presents, work for him, correspond with him in writing, and the devout seclusion of the cloister is perpetually torn to pieces by scandalous scenes of jealousy between the sisters on account of their reverend favourites. Take, for example, the following scene, good for warning and reproof wherever convents are rising into existence. It takes place during Enrichetta's novitiate, when a fanatical nun sister, Maddalena, seeing her repugnance for the cloister, has, by her importunate entreaties, induced her to see her own confessor, "the Canon who has." Maddalena tells her, "the wisdom of St. Thomas Aquinas, and the virtues of St. Francis Caracciolo, your ancestor." The Canon comes, and though unsuccessful in dispute, takes a fancy to his task of conversion, neglects Maddalena, and proposes himself as Enrichetta's confessor, although she entreats her aunt, the Abbess, to find her another and older one, who should have "no other penitent in the convent." Now for the result:—

About three o'clock I heard a great noise in the corridor. I went forward to the *loggia*, and saw Maddalena in the centre of a party of nuns and lay sisters, exhibiting to her companions a folded paper that looked like a letter. They were all talking, or I should rather say, screeching together, with such violent gestures that they looked like the witches in 'Macbeth.' Any matter respecting a confessor becomes, in a convent of nuns, an affair of state—a *casus belli*. I saw at once that this must be a letter from the Canon, and from the bottom of my heart I cursed the day when I came into that sanctified pandemonium. The noise went on increasing. All the community was afoot. Amid the confusion of cries, one word only was to be made out, repeated a thousand times over, the word "Canon." By this time the aged Abbess, supported by one of the pupils, hastened to the fray, and tried to calm Maddalena by promising that her niece should never confess to the Canon again, and that she herself would find me another confessor. "Do you give me your word that you will?" shrieked Maddalena, like a madwoman, and fifty mouths around her were closed in expectation of the answer. "Consider me as pledged," said the Abbess. "Brava! Brava!" cried all the nuns in chorus. "It was too painful, it was insupportable, to see him shut up in the confessional with another." And away they went, congratulating Maddalena on her

recovered property, and saying, "Now that justice is done you may live at peace."

Yet, for all Sister Maddalena's shrieking, the next day, at the Canon's special prayer, the Vicar-General of Naples came in person to enjoin Enrichetta to receive the reverend gentleman as her confessor. "And," she adds, "I was never free from the persecution of the nuns till Maddalena found another confessor, and forgot the former one." The confessor's power over his penitent is unlimited; and his interference is needed in every most trivial action of her life. "There are nuns who dare not even make out the list for the washerwoman without the interference of their confessor." And one of these scrupulous devotees is described as receiving hers three times a day, and making up with him, during the evening's sitting, "the account of what he had spent for the eatables he brought her in the morning."

Another nun, after sixteen long years waiting, had, at last, obtained the grace of having her reverend swain appointed her confessor, the priest in question having been especially banished from the convent for improper conduct in his intercourse with her. When, at last, a change of superiors restored him to her, "out of gratitude to her holy patroness for the grace received, she made her rich offerings of candles and flowers; she distributed sweetmeats to the whole community, as is the custom at a marriage; she received the felicitations of her companions, as well as a congratulatory madrigal or two, and had a separate confessional constructed, at her own expense, that there might be no hindrance to her spiritual exercises."

But it is not one virtue only that appears to be stifled by the blight of monachism in these "brides of heaven." All the tender sympathies and charities of womanhood seem to be deranged and defaced in the process of extirpating the family tie. A nun lies dying of an agonizing disease. She has formerly filled the office of abbess, and has had many and sore troubles with her unruly flock. Now, at her last gasp, the merciless nuns "crowd round the unhappy woman's deathbed, and might be heard saying to one another, in loud tones, 'Her sufferings are a judgment on her for her detestable rule when she was abbess. This is the way in which God punishes her!'"

Of the numerous other instances of more or less revolting cruelty recorded, we have no space to speak. Cases of mania are, we learn, very frequent in these religious houses, but they are barbarously neglected and mistreated, to avoid inquiry from without, so that great danger is often caused to the community, and risk of self-destruction to the wretched sufferer, by systematic and unfeeling carelessness. Dishonesty and petty theft appear to be also some of the bitter fruits of reclusion. A good lock and key are absolutely necessary to convent chests and wardrobes; nor are the votive offerings at the holiest shrines always safe from pillage, though, of course, these scandals are speedily hushed up, for fear of the outsiders getting scent of them. Very curious, too, are the notices the author gives of the strange worldly pride prevalent among these recluses devoted to humility and self-denial. She says:—

In their squabbles they always begin discussing each other's claims to nobility. Cries one, "You never had anything better than a beggarly count belonging to you, and he a younger son. My great-grandfather So-and-So, of happy memory, bore on his shield all the titles of chivalry; Prince of —, Duke of —, Marquis of —, Count of —, and Councillor to the Most Catholic King, and Grandee of Spain into the bargain!"—"That's all true," says the other, "but he came of bastard

blood, and the *piccirilli* (*gamins*) know it!"—"I should like to know," replies the first, "how many stains you have got on your shield," &c.

We can hardly be surprised at the account Signora Caracciolo gives of the intense ignorance and the lack of even the shadow of liberal education among these ultra-noble ladies. But we cannot conclude this notice without presenting our readers with the measure of knowledge of ancient history and of modern literature to be found in the titled abbesses of San Gregorio Armeno. One of these was wont to give quite a new and peculiar reading of 'The Last Days of Pompeii.' She declared that "all the stories put forth by antiquaries about the catastrophe of Pompeii were sheer nonsense. Pompeii was a city long ago inhabited by a race of heretics, who in the middle of their forum knocked to pieces with sledge hammers a miraculous statue of San Gennaro. But the overhanging volcano, trembling with rage at the sight of such audacity, instantly poured forth upon them that deluge of hot ashes which buried the heretical city for ever!"

Another abbess had received hints from unfriendly nuns that Signora Caracciolo was in the habit of reading "worldly" books. She was accordingly surprised one day by her Superior, *in flagrante delicto*, with a volume in her hand:—

"What good book are you reading, my daughter? Let me see!" quoth the Abbess. I had no time to conceal the volume, and was obliged to give it her, feeling great anxiety as to the sort of excuse that I could make. The Abbess put on her spectacles, and when she had read the title-page, gave me back the volume, closed, saying: "'Memoriale di Santa Elena' (Mémoires de Sainte Héline)—Ah! the life of the mother of St. Constantine! How this poor girl is always calumniated!" It was in fact the 'Memoriale di Santa Elena!' A short time afterwards I was able to assure myself that the illustrious Abbess of San Gregorio Armeno was totally ignorant of the name and fame of Napoleon the Great.

This book is one that might very properly be translated into English.

Eccentric Personages. By W. Russell, LL.D. 2 vols. (Maxwell & Co.)

In what does eccentricity of character consist? What is the course of action and what the moral constitution of those to whom the term "eccentric" may be justly applied? Dr. Russell has not forgotten to put these questions to himself; but the insufficiency of his replies accounts in a great measure for the radical fault of his book. His definition of eccentricity is imperfect, and consequently many of his illustrations cannot be accepted. "The word eccentric, applied to human character," he observes, "I need hardly say, usually means one whose bent of mind prompts him or her to overleap or break through the conventional barriers which hedge in different classes of society—to escape at any risk from the beaten highways of life." In other places this definition is repeated with trifling variations of expression; but throughout the book it is employed so that it embraces all persons who have shown themselves different from the common herd of their contemporaries. As soon as a man has done something unusual, has taken an exceptional line in life, has displayed distinctive individuality, he stands credited with eccentricity. The Doctor applies the term with equal promptness to men of original genius and to feeble wittlings whose most noble ambition is a craving for notoriety. On his lips the word points to "the pioneers of society," and also to any simpleton who wears his clothes turned inside out, or when he makes

morning calls habitually enters the drawing-rooms of his friends crawling on all-fours. Hence, in the group of remarkable persons brought upon Dr. Russell's stage there are some whose eccentricity was by no means their most prominent characteristic, and others whose sole title to eccentricity consisted in unusual intelligence and energy. Readers are told that Daniel Defoe was an eccentric man; and in support of that view Dr. Russell can say no more than that the novelist was an enthusiastic supporter of the Revolution, and by his political writings rendered himself hateful to persons in power. If strong political opinions and readiness to act upon them are signs of eccentricity, the eccentric Englishmen of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries greatly outnumbered the commonplace members of society. Dean Swift had, without doubt, a vein of genuine eccentricity; but Dr. Russell greatly errs in supposing that it contributed to the humourist's reputation, or justifies the writer who now exhibits him in a caravan of quacks and madmen. In like manner Turner, the Academician, cannot be justly regarded as an instance of pure eccentricity. Right-minded persons close their eyes to the infirmities of his nature and the repulsive features of his later years, and in gratitude to the artist forget the unsightly, tipping veteran whom boys used to hoot in the London streets. To caricature the mental and moral deformities of illustrious men, and at the same time withdraw from observation their really heroic qualities, is to insult genius and mislead the ignorant. Dr. Russell will do well to take this assurance to heart, and recall it whenever he is again tempted to raise a laugh at the errors and foibles of great minds. Some of the Doctor's cases are selected with greater justice. Christina of Sweden, Margaret Fuller, Lady Hester Stanhope, Amazon Snell, Philip Duke of Wharton and Northumberland, Sir Andrew Sellwood, and Sir Gerald Massey were in different ways notable for eccentricity rather than for any higher quality; and the sensitive bystander can without much pain listen to the smart pertness of the showman who recounts their follies and sufferings. In other sketches Dr. Russell, instead of detracting from greatness, lays himself open to a charge of glossing vice. The Chevalier D'Eon and Joseph Balsamo, *alias* Alessandro Count de Cagliostro, are to be stigmatized as arrant knaves, rather than applauded as droll fellows. There are those, also, who will resent the author's leniency to that "very erratic gentleman," Mr. Bamfylde Moore Carew,—and to Lord Norbury, the Irish Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, who, "when passing sentence of death, at Carlow, upon a lot of rebels, was attired in a masquerade dress."

But of all Dr. Russell's cases those in which he is most at fault are Beau Brummell and Beau Nash. By his own definition the author is condemned. In what respect did these men "overleap or break through the conventional barriers which hedge in the different classes of society"? At what time of their lives did they manifest desire "to escape at any risk from the beaten highways of life"? Their best energies were devoted to the task of maintaining those barriers, and, far from wishing to overleap them, and quit the beaten ways of life, they were entirely dependent for social position and happiness on the conventionalities of highly artificial society. Beau Brummell's boldest innovation on the usages of that narrow world in which he spent his days was the introduction of starch into white cravats; and from early manhood to extreme old age the King of Bath was in no way distinguishable from his companions, except by

the colour of his hat. These men eccentric! If they had presumed to differ from their companions, the world of fashion would forthwith have dethroned them.

The details of Dr. Russell's work are worse than its scheme. In tone and style the volumes provoke warm censure; and at every turn of a page the eye falls on a fresh blunder. Frequently his sentences are so involved and ungrammatical that it is almost impossible to catch a glimpse of his meaning; and in his critical passages he distributes praise and censure with more courage than discernment. Speaking of the 'Paradise Lost' he observes,—"The first six books are magnificent; the others pale their intellectual fires in the blaze of glory which illuminates those first chapters. The mightiest wing would flag and droop before the termination of so *exhaustive* a flight." It is not customary with the author to praise thus liberally. Indeed, he is a stern judge, overflowing with reproof and hard to please. He sneers at poor Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, calling her a "transcendental femality," and maintaining that the delightful Eastern letters, which Steele so cordially admired, are "utterly destitute of genius, and, worse than all, containing no spark of womanly feeling, tenderness, or truth." Of St. Patrick's dean, he remarks, "It is difficult to understand how Swift acquired his great reputation." Describing the Dean's last years, he says, "the fierce, erratic intellect gave rapidly away at last. . . . Dean Swift died *raving mad*, leaving little behind him, spite of great talents, which the world has not willingly let die." What authority has Dr. Russell for this statement? Biography assures us that the time between 1742, in which year the Dean's furious lunacy ceased, and October, 1745, when he calmly expired, was passed by the luckless man in "quiet idiocy"; but doubtless Dr. Russell has arisen to put biography right. Pope is dismissed with an expression of opinion that "it would puzzle his admirers to quote one inspired line in all his melodious verse." For Defoe Dr. Russell shows greater respect; but he makes certain statements about the author of 'Robinson Crusoe' which are not exactly in accordance with fact. Dr. Russell says rightly, that Defoe was born in 1661; but he errs in a subsequent page, which assures us that the great writer was sixty years old at the accession of George the First. Surely, also, the author must be at fault when he maintains that Defoe "did not even know or suspect, till he was sixty years of age, that he could write fiction; did not, before then, imagine that he had a 'Robinson Crusoe,' 'A Citizen's Account of the Plague of London,' &c., in him." 'Robinson Crusoe' was published in 1719. But Dr. Russell's most notable discovery with regard to De Foe relates to the sentence passed on him for writing and publishing 'The Shortest Way with the Dissenters.' Says the Doctor: "Directly his plea of 'guilty' was recorded, he was sentenced to be pilloried three times, *have his ears snipped off*, to pay a fine of one hundred marks, be imprisoned during the Queen's pleasure, and upon liberation find sureties for good behaviour during seven years." Need we remind our readers that the fine was to the amount of two hundred marks, that mutilation formed no part of the punishment, and that Pope's libellous line—

Earless on high stood unabashed De Foe,

was the origin of the very general, but quite erroneous, impression that the father of English novelists surrendered his ears under the executioner's knife? The reader will smile on learning that Dr. Russell misquotes Pope's scurrilous verse, so as to omit from it the word which caused his blunder. Some of the poet's tran-

scribers, sacrificing point to truth, have changed "earless" into "fearless"; Dr. Russell makes an additional sacrifice of all the melody of the line, and renders it—

See where on high stands unabashed De Foe.

With characteristic recklessness, Dr. Russell tells again some of the old, absurd, baseless stories of J. M. W. Turner. "He was," says the Doctor, "sometimes munificent, even during life, in affording help to those who really needed it. A gentleman who used to buy his sketches when he was working in the dingy bedroom over his father's shop in Maiden Lane, and always prophesied high things of him, fell into difficulties, and was about to sell the timber on his estate. Turner heard of this, and sent many thousands, twenty it is said, anonymously to the gentleman's steward. The embarrassment was temporary only, the gentleman recovered himself, and Turner received back his twenty thousand pounds." Can Dr. Russell inform us how, as the money was sent anonymously, "the gentleman" knew that the 20,000*l.* came from Turner?

Dr. Russell merits attention as one of the few remaining Englishmen who, accepting Pope as an historian, firmly believe that George Villiers, the second Duke of Buckingham, died under the circumstances set forth in the 'Third Epistle to Lord Bathurst.' Dr. Russell compares Brummell's deathbed to that of Buckingham, "who expired—

*In the worst inn's worst bed,
Where tawdry yellow strove with dirty red."*

So runs the essayist's version of the lines—

*In the worst inn's worst room, with mat half-hung,
The floors of plaster, and the walls of dung,
On once a flock-bed, but repaired with straw,
With tape-tied curtains, never meant to draw,
The George and Garter dangling from that bed,
Where tawdry yellow strove with dirty red.*

It is some time since we met with a more amusing case of misquotation.

Bee-keeping. By the *Times* Bee-Master. (Low & Co.)

'Bee-keeping' is one of the most remarkable specimens of book-making which we have met with for a long time. The author, Dr. Cumming, sent to the *Times* an account of a successful honey harvest about the end of July last. This led to various inquiries by different writers addressed to that journal, which, having been forwarded to the "Bee-Master," a series of six other letters on bees and wasps was subsequently published. These, it was thought, either by the author or his publisher, were worthy of republication. They accordingly occupy 50 pages of the volume before us, which consists of 224 pages, the remainder being eked out by the letters of the different correspondents to the *Times*, occupying about 25 pages, and by a general summary of bee culture under the following heads:—How to begin Bee-keeping; The Bee House and how to place it; Hives and Bee Boxes; How to get Bees; The Innates of the Hive; Bee Enemies and Bee Things in General. All this is written, printed and published, with a number of woodcuts, by the end of September! How this feat has been managed may be learnt from the fact that, although in his Preface the author adopts the complaint of his correspondents of the obscurity and complexity of bee-books in general, yet he does not hesitate to publish page after page of extracts from the works of his predecessors to such an extent that of one of his chapters, the last but one, consisting of 30 pages, not fewer than 28½ pages are extracts from other books. Of the general character of the work we are compelled to state that, independent of its flippant style, many of its statements are incor-

rect, and the omission of matters of every-day occurrence in bee-keeping are numerous.

Referring to the different letters which appeared in answer to his letters in "various more or less obscure newspapers, beginning at Exeter and moving onwards to the Orkneys," in which the errors of the "Bee-Master" were exposed, he observes that "he had no idea there was such concert among bee-keepers, or that in giving an account of his intercourse with his bees, he was putting his hands into hornets' nests. *But wasps have been a terrible plague this autumn.*" This reminds us of the tipsy man who thinks everybody drunk save himself. We will not quote the passages relating to Brother Ignatius, Mr. Spurgeon, Mr. Cobden, or the Belfast riots, all specimens of flippant writing out of place in a "bee-book." The writer asserts that the "poor parish minister, vicar, or curate, with a little glebe, a cottager who works all day for the squire, or maiden ladies who desire to engage in very delightful and loving labour, may add to their little income or stipend or dividend, from 10*l.* to 20*l.* a year" by bee-keeping. In some parts of the country this may be done, but bee-keeping, as we know to our cost, in several parts of the country, is not a profitable concern,—many hives remaining unfilled with honey throughout the year.

Again, we are told that "bees rarely fail to become acquainted with a kind and affectionate master," and that "they do not forget little acts of kindness shown them, and rarely fail to show gratitude—an example Christians would do well to follow," both of which are simply absurd assertions. We know a lady whose treatment of bees has been especially affectionate. She has never killed a bee intentionally, and has never taken a hive of honey, but contented herself with the glass or small upper hive, and in cold spring weather she has, many a time and oft, collected the poor things with the utmost tenderness when lying starved on the ground around the hive, and gently placed them before the fire to revive them, and has been repeatedly rewarded with stings in return.

The writer further asserts for his bees their instinctive practice of the rights of "*meum and tuum*," whereas it is known to every bee-keeper that they are arrant robbers, and the case which he mentions as a solitary instance of insobriety, in which the inmates of a hive got drunk, and quarrelled, and fought amongst themselves, was doubtless a battle between a weak colony and robber bees, attracted by the sweets he had incautiously introduced into the hive.

Again, we are told that "bees set a beautiful example of Christian sympathy. I have seen a wounded bee, accidentally hurt, carried out from the hive and laid tenderly on the bee-board in the warm sunshine. One bee would lick the sufferer with his tongue from head to foot; another would roll him over and over in the sunshine; and at sunset they would carry him to his sick bed." This is an amusing jumble of fact and fiction. Bees do carry wounded members of the community out of the hive, but they fly off with them, and drop them at a distance from it, to get rid of them; they roll them over and over—a strange mode of treatment of an invalid,—but it is done in order to get them to the edge of the bee-board, whence they drop them to the ground: the last paragraph is sheer fiction. In like manner, we have another mixture of error and fact in the assertion that "Bees are very early risers. The first ray of sunshine is their matin bell, and by seven o'clock P.M. they are most of them at home,"—the fact being that bees rarely leave the hive, or even come to the entrance, till

seven or eight o'clock, A.M., even with the hive exposed to the morning sun, and thus the wasp, which is better able to withstand the night cold, is allowed to enter the hive early in the morning, long before the bees are at the entrance. This we have repeatedly seen this autumn.

Of omissions we will only allude to two. The author first abuses, and then advises, the use of the old straw hive, and we agree with him that, for practical purposes, a well-made straw hive, painted on the outside every three or four years, with a small glass pane let into one side, opposite the entrance, and with a flat piece of wood let into the top to place a glass or small hive upon, is still the best of all bee receptacles; but, will it be believed, that the system of bar hives, the very best for observatory purposes, and which every one who cares for more than merely obtaining a stock of honey must adopt,—is ignored?

Again, in his chapter on "Bee Enemies," the writer occupies several pages with the account of "the moth," which he regards as the death's-head moth, an insect of great rarity, whereas "the moth," *par excellence*, is a small creature, the larvæ of which burrow into the waxen combs, and do much mischief in the hive. Dr. Cumming must have been a very lucky bee-keeper, or a bad observer, if this little destructive creature has not fallen under his notice.

In conclusion, "the *Times* Bee-Master's" volume is an amusing addition to the bibliography of the hive; but in intrinsic merit it is surpassed by many a shilling, sixpenny, or even twopenny bee-book.

Entozoa: an Introduction to the Study of Helminthology, with Reference, more particularly, to the Internal Parasites of Man. By Spencer Cobbold, M.D. (Groombridge & Sons.)

WHEN, on a recent occasion, we endeavoured to disabuse the minds of our readers of the prejudice, as universal as it is undeserved, against a very interesting tribe of animals, by showing that the habits and conformation of spiders exhibit as striking indications of Divine skill and wisdom as can be found in almost any other of the works of the Creator, we were executing a task both easy and pleasant compared with that which we have now undertaken. To render pleasing—nay, even to divest of what is absolutely disgusting—to the ordinary reader the history of the creatures which form the subject of Dr. Cobbold's elaborate volume is, we frankly confess, in itself impossible; and yet, whilst it would be a libel against Nature to pronounce any of her marvellous works devoid of real interest, we can assure our readers that, even in the case of the *intestinal worms*, we find no exception to her universal attribute of consummate skill and perfect adaptation of means to the attainment of a final cause. The biography of these creatures, too, hitherto but imperfectly understood, has been shown by modern investigation and experiment to afford some of the most curious anomalies to be found in any department of the animal world.

That some of the entozoic forms exist in a condition and in localities exceedingly different from their ultimate destination had, indeed, long been partially known, or at least suspected; and the comparatively recent researches of many of our most ingenious physiologists have proved that the antecedents of these creatures, before their arrival at their final perfect condition, in which only they are popularly known, are as wonderful and unlooked for as any phenomena in nature. That a minute animalcule, swimming freely in a stream or

pond, should require to be swallowed by a stickleback or a minnow, by a Lymnaeus or a Planorbis, in order to find a suitable place for its first change of life and condition, and that its further development should necessarily take place within the body of the still higher animal which takes the little fish, or mollusk, for its prey, is a mere simplifying of the more elaborate and complicated truth. Not to excite any unnecessarily uneasy sensations in the minds or stomachs of those who persevere in reading our review, in spite of its unattractive objects, we will select, as an illustration, a form not in itself so repulsive as some others might be, whilst it also possesses the highest interest to the breeder of stock, the sheep-farmer, and the consumer, —we mean the common fluke, *Fasciola hepatica*, of which creature Dr. Cobbold gives us a most valuable and complete practical monograph.

The rot in sheep is but too well known as one of the most destructive pests connected with what may be termed the animal economy of agriculture. Its ravages have been in some seasons so extensive as to produce a scarcity in the kind of stock which constitutes the most general and wholesome kind of our ordinary animal food, as well as a very important medium in carrying out the necessary rotation of crops. A writer in the Edinburgh *Veterinary Review*, quoted by Dr. Cobbold, says, that "in the season of 1830-31, the estimated deaths of sheep from rot was between 1,000,000 and 2,000,000. Supposing," proceeds our author, "the number to have been 1,500,000, this would represent a sum of something like 4,000,000*l.* sterling." * * As instances of its disastrous effects upon the revenues of agriculturists, we may cite the statements of Duvaline, and also individual cases recorded by Simonds. 'In the neighbourhood of Arles alone, during the year 1812, no less than 300,000 sheep perished, and at Nîmes and Montpellier 90,000. In the inner departments, during the epidemic of the years 1853-54, many cattle-breeders lost a fourth, a third, or even three-fourths of their flocks.' * * On the estate of Mr. Cramp, of the Isle of Thanet, the rot epidemic of 1834 swept away 3,000*l.* worth of his sheep in less than three months, compelling him to give up his farm. Scores of cases are on record where our English farmers have lost three, four, five, six, seven and even eight hundred sheep in a single season, and many agriculturists have thus become completely ruined." It is superfluous to inform our readers that all this wholesale and ruinous mischief is the effect of the existence of the "liver-fluke," *Fasciola hepatica*, in the liver of the animal. The number of flukes inhabiting a single sheep's liver is sometimes very considerable. "Bidloo obtained 800, Leuwenhoeck about 900, and Duprey upwards of 1,000 specimens. The bile contained in the liver-ducts is loaded with flukes' eggs. In some cases there cannot be less than tens, or even hundreds, of thousands."

The disease is, with great truth, associated, in the opinion of agriculturists, with feeding on low, damp, marshy lands, and it is found that sheep which feed on dry, open, healthy downs, or well-drained pastures, are seldom, if ever, affected by it. The rapidity with which the mischief is produced, is remarkable. Youatt, in his treatise on the Sheep, mentions many instances in which a few hours, in one case by the sheep drinking at a pond, and in another by being turned into a wet field for a quarter of an hour, were sufficient to produce the disease. All this is a perfect correlation with what is already known of the genesis of this curious parasite, although much yet remains to be cleared up as to the details

of its history. In Youatt's time, the phenomena, since well ascertained, were unknown; and he considered the existence of the fluke as the consequence, not the cause, of the disease. Now, however, it has been well ascertained that the ova of the parasite falling into favourable localities, such as we have just alluded to, are taken into the stomachs of the smaller freshwater snails, or of those species of land snails which frequent damp places; here they undergo a further change, and either quitting the body of the mollusk, or possibly, in some instances, being swallowed by the sheep within it, they make their way from the stomach into the liver in this form, and there undergo their further transformation into the perfect fluke.

The name of this parasite is obviously derived from its resemblance to the "fluke," or flounder, a name given to this well-known fish in many parts of England. This miniature likeness to the fish has given rise, in some places, to the notion that the entozoon is only the embryo condition of the higher organism: an opinion which, absurd as it is, was entertained by the strong-minded William Cobbett, who was sufficiently credulous and so deficient in all knowledge of natural history as to believe also in the conversion of horsehair into young eels!

But we must bring our notice of Dr. Cobbold to a close. We have dwelt on the one subject of the sheep-fluke on account of its obvious importance in relation to our agricultural interest, and because the subject is more generally interesting than any other treated of in this work. We consider it unnecessary, as well as out of place, to enter upon that part of the subject which particularly relates to our own species, and this especially because every medical practitioner ought to be in possession of the book itself.

Of the *cui bono* of the existence of these injurious and often fatal pests, little can be said. We remember an excellent and sensible old lady, who, considering it a religious duty to find a beneficial object in every phenomenon in nature, always maintained that fleas were created to exercise the patience of their human victims, and to produce in them habits of cleanliness. In the present instance it would be difficult to find even as plausible an advantage in the existence of entozoic organisms, and until we see further into their use shall consider them as absolute and unmitigated pests.

Of the manner in which Dr. Cobbold has executed his work, we have only to say that it is such as might have been anticipated from his well-known zeal in investigating physiological truths and his long and close application to this particular subject. The illustrations, both in the form of intercalated woodcuts and of coloured engravings, are extremely well executed, and the book is "got up" in admirable style. Of the mere literary labour bestowed by the author, a striking indication is afforded in the list of English authorities, exclusive of all foreign sources of information, which is appended to the work, and which includes no fewer than one thousand and thirty publications, in the form of books, or of shorter papers!

NEW POETRY.

Poems. By the Rev. W. J. Underwood, B.A. (Hallsam, Breads).—This little volume consists of two parts, 'Voices from the Flower and Field,' and 'Life Studies and other Poems'; in other words, Mr. Underwood divides his attentions between natural objects generally, and human nature in particular. Some of the "voices" give good promise of future success, and a thorough love of the peaceful beauties of English scenery pervades them all. Moreover, they afford evidence

of careful and affectionate observation, without which all descriptions of natural objects must be tame and slipshod. There is an "Introductory Stanza," in which the author admonishes his muse not to fly "where the curs of Scylla bark." We do not know whether these "curs of Scylla" are meant to typify the wicked, or the critics, but perhaps the former class may be supposed to include the latter. At any rate Mr. Underwood recommends the flying goddess to stay with those who receive her kindly, and exalt their souls to good. It is only fair to add that the tone of all the poems is consistent with the profession thus indirectly shadowed forth. Some of the ideas in the "Life Studies" are very well put, and show that Mr. Underwood knows not only how to cultivate reflection, but also how to transplant the living thought into the soil of another's mind. This is a very important element of poetry, just as good sketching is an essential qualification in a painter. The hopeless position of the released convict, entitled legally to existence, but shunned by all his race, suggests the following lines:—

Wide's the world, and men will give
Ample room to let him live,
If his sharpened wits can find
Fortune blowing in the wind,
In the curtain of the sky
Solid roof to keep him dry,
And for clothing warm or gay,
Fleecy clouds and sunny ray,
For his bed the flint-stones bare,
And for food the plenteous air.

But though Mr. Underwood laments the forlorn position of the outcast, he has the modesty to leave the ticket-of-leave problem for future solution, and does not attempt to force any crude theory on the many wise and benevolent men who are anxiously considering it. A fair specimen of Mr. Underwood's imaginative poetry may be found in the history of three brothers, who appear to typify ambition, cupidity, and benevolence. The allegory is well devised, but its execution is inferior to its design, especially in the last two stanzas, which are marred by bathos of language and thought. Better words might have been used than "the sick attention got"; and the author might have indicated more poetically the ultimate destination of the bad:—

And where their souls may dwell, I should not wish to be.
And that of the good:—

But where the youngest is, I know there is good fare.

We must also object to occasional liberties which are taken with the metre. Our lazy English language falls most naturally into the jog-trot iambic metre, and an occasional trochee, substituted for an iambus, is a positive relief. Take the opening of 'The Corsair':—

O'er the glad waters of the dark blue sea,
Our thoughts as boundless, and our souls as free.

Here the emphatic word "o'er," with a short syllable following, inverts the iambus, and varies the monotony of the metre. This is an allowable and useful licence; but the ear is hurt and harassed when a long or emphatic syllable is put in the place of a short or non-emphatic one, merely to save trouble. Thus the lines next quoted are painful to the ear:—

But as the waters gathered close
In caverns of five oceans.
—while the following are satisfactory:—
The fossil forms of by-gone times
Tell us of vanished troubles.

Frequent and unnecessary hitches in the metre give a sense of uneasiness to the reader, making him feel as if he were being jolted along a stony road in a cart without springs. But Mr. Underwood has fervour, imagination, and truthfulness; and he may improve very much if he will study to sustain his vein of thought, and bestow more attention on the mechanical branches of his art.

NEW NOVELS.

The Doctor's Wife. By the Author of 'Lady Audley's Secret,' &c. 3 vols. (Maxwell & Co.).—In the October of 1862 we noticed 'Lady Audley's Secret'; and in October, 1864, we are about to review the author's sixth novel,—which, strange to say, has not appeared in a second edition a week before the date of announced publication. 'Lady Audley's Secret,' 'Aurora Floyd,' 'Eleanor's Vic-

tory,' 'John Marchmont's Legacy,' 'Henry Dunbar,' 'The Doctor's Wife,' make eighteen volumes in two years. There is no secret in the mechanism of 'The Doctor's Wife.' From first to last there is neither mystery nor an attempt at mystification. In this respect the tale differs from most of Miss Braddon's stories; but, otherwise, the book bears a strong resemblance to her previous novels. Indeed, its principal characters, incidents, and positions are reproductions of the old materials. Crime is the mainspring which sets the puppets in motion; the chief actors are vicious; and, at the close of the story, the moral teacher assigns impunity to one sinner and wealth to another, just to encourage the others. Bigamy plays no part in the drama; but, as was the case in 'Henry Dunbar,' the heroine is the daughter of a convicted forger. After obtaining his liberation on a ticket-of-leave from Portland, this convict murders his child's lover, and makes good his escape to America. In addition to forgery and murder, the proceedings are enlivened by some innocent conjugal infidelity, and an unsuccessful attempt at seduction. By disappointing her heartless seducer, and making her false wife stop short of adulterous intercourse with the man whom she prefers to her generous and devoted husband, Miss Braddon lays claim to rank amongst writers of morality. A notable damsel is Isabel Sleaford, the forger's daughter, and heroine. She has eyes of a "bright orange colour." Her hair is "blue-black,"—and when the reader is first introduced to her, a curl of this wondrous hair is seen "straggling on her white throat—her throat very white, with the dead, yet yellowish whiteness of ivory." In other matters the girl is more in the usual way of dirty London life. She seldom wears clean linen, rarely washes her hands, and has some young brothers, who are said to "smell of out-door amusements." Slender is the education which a father, steadily pursuing the profession of a forger, has bestowed on this yellow-and-blue child; but she is very romantic, yearns to be somebody particular, and has been so thoroughly visited by the novels of Thackeray, Mr. Dickens, and Sir E. B. Lytton, that she hopes some fine day to meet an earl in the Old Kent Road, who will take her into his cabriolet, and forthwith make her a countess. It may not be supposed that Miss Braddon wishes to insinuate that the works of the three novelists just named are more likely than her own healthy writings to stultify and demoralize a young lady. On the contrary, she takes every opportunity to speak a handsome word for those writers; every fifth page of her book containing an allusion to the works of "Boz," and the names of Ernest Maltravers and Edith Dombey appearing not less than a hundred times in the course of the tale. No blame, therefore, is cast on the authors because their works have had a deleterious effect in the case of Miss Isabel Sleaford, who hopes to become a grand lady, in spite of her indolence and dislike of soap and water. Not only does Miss Isabel cherish this hope, but the hope is fulfilled. The author ridicules the girl's folly, and then brings about the accomplishment of her expectations. First of all, a young surgeon, prosperous and of good repute, falls in love with her at first sight, and marries her without troubling himself to ascertain the fortunes of her papa, who is serving his time at Portland. It is well known that professional men, living in quiet country towns, are wont to take unto themselves wives of whose private histories they know nothing. The main work of the first volume is to accomplish this marriage. Very dreary reading is this first volume; but it has one or two pleasant points. In it Miss Braddon expresses contempt for "sensation literature," and satirizes the artifices by which Mr. Sigismund Smith, writer for penny papers, panders to the lust of his ignoble readers! Surely the Author of 'Lady Audley's Secret' could point to novels, published in three volumes, which are as rich in impossible horrors as any of the tales devoured by the vulgar people "who like their literature—as they like their tobacco—very strong." Having accepted the country surgeon without loving him, Isabel wearies of his society before the end of their first week of married life. The Doctor is manly, intelligent, good-looking, and warmly

respected by his neighbours; but he is devoid of enthusiasm for Shelley, and is fond of pickled onions. "He was her lord and master," observes Miss Braddon, "though his fingers were square at the tips, and had an abnormal capacity for the consumption of onions! Spring onions! all the year round onions, Isabel thought; for those obnoxious bulbs seemed always in season at Graybridge." Who can say that the convict's daughter had no good reason for hating this surgeon? "She was only a week married; and already, as she stood at the window listening to the slip-slop of the everlasting rain, she began to think that she had made a mistake." Ere many weeks have passed, the young woman *knows* she has made a mistake, and longs to be quit of her husband, so that she may live happily with Mr. Roland Lansdell, to whom she has given her heart. A poet, superbly handsome, of aristocratic family, and possessing a fine landed estate, Mr. Roland Lansdell sees Isabel's yellow eyes, converses with her, is charmed with her romantic disposition, and resolves to make her his mistress. Volume II. and part of volume III. are devoted to the romantic intercourse of Isabel with the *rich gentleman*, whose expensive costume and luxurious dinners are contrasted with the rustic clothes and plain fare of the country apothecary. Mad with vanity of the most contemptible kind, Isabel has clandestine interviews with Mr. Lansdell, and learns to loathe the bare thought of her husband, whose name she makes the object of ignominious scandal. At length Mr. Lansdell proposes flight to the young wife; but Isabel firmly rejects the proposal. She loves Mr. Lansdell; she tells him so; she accepts his addresses; but she won't be wicked,—she won't be his mistress. Actually Miss Braddon is under the impression that her heroine is guiltless of conjugal infidelity, because she confines herself to sinning in thought, and to certain acts which dishonour her husband without entitling him to the relief of the Divorce Court. The termination of the story is not less immoral and foolish. Isabel's father is liberated from Portland, hunts her out, and demands money from her purse. To satisfy this request, she asks and obtains 50*l.* from the man who still hopes to be her seducer. The father not only takes the money, but eventually robs Mr. Lansdell of his life. Through Mr. Lansdell's evidence the convict was sentenced at the Old Bailey; and now the forger, encountering once more the "languid swell who mixed himself up in business that didn't concern him," falls upon him with a bludgeon and beats him so ferociously that the blows, after an interval of a few days, result in death. Whilst Mr. Lansdell is dying, Isabel's husband is also drawing near his end, brought on by typhoid fever. The Doctor dies, with his last breath uttering words of endearment to Isabel, and scarcely has the vital spark fled when Isabel pays a visit to the dying Roland Lansdell who made her a faithless wife, and almost made her his mistress. The interview between the lovers is intended to be most pathetic; the widow, whose husband lies unburied, assuring Mr. Lansdell that he has no need to ask her forgiveness, and Mr. Lansdell commending the lady to the protection of his family. Mr. Lansdell dies penitent, leaving the bulk of his vast property to Isabel, and his murderer escapes to America. Thus freed from her plebeian husband, her aristocratic lover and her blood-stained father, Isabel takes possession of her landed estates, becomes the intimate friend of Lady Gwendoline Pomphrey, and enters the ranks of the aristocracy.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Errors of Modern Science and Theology. By J. A. Smith. (Murray & Co.)—When we found in a staring Greek motto the accent of *τὸ* thrown back, in a work which affects both Greek and Hebrew, we began to stare. When in the list of *errata* we found the misprint *Xτῆρος* only corrected into *Χρῆτος*, we began to doubt. When we turned a few pages on, and found that there is no centrifugal force, because the earth's revolution is "not sufficient to occasion centrifugal force," and that the spheroidal figure is a consequence of the sun's attraction, we began to see. When we read that

the sun's attraction is "satisfied" by this oblate ness, whence he exerts less influence over the tides than the moon, we began to laugh. And when, beginning the first chapter even after this, we found that it is possible for God to make one and one more than two, and that *he did it*, we began to be tired. Perhaps our readers may like to know how it was done. "Of oxygen, which is one element, and of hydrogen, which is also one, we compose water, which consists of two, and is the inflexible quotient,—yet of this one and one, making two, Scripture has recorded that our Saviour made wine; that is, he changed this infallible result of one and one, from two to a greater number, by so much as the number of elements in wine exceed those which go to the constitution of water." Books of this sort are one consequence of the discussions on science and theology which are going on in the higher world of education. A great number of shallow and ignorant persons—many ingenious enough—imagine that they can bear a part: and some of them contrive to publish. It becomes a positive duty to tell our audience that "Pyramus is not Pyramus, but Bottom the weaver. This will put them out of fear."

The Mastery of Languages; or, the Art of Speaking Foreign Tongues Idiomatically. By T. Prendergast. (Bentley.)—This book is very full, and deserves attention; its pages are crowded with suggestive remarks. The author has given a summary, which we shall try to abbreviate. 1. Idiomatic speech may be gained by adults without going abroad. 2. Sentences may be formulated so that each lesson shall double the number of results gained [a strong assertion; think of the horse-shoe problem]. 3. Acquisition of unconnected words worthless. 4. Preliminary grammar unnecessary. 5. Speech gained by memory, not by reasoning. 6. Memory usually over-estimated; each one to ascertain his own capacity; and 7. to keep within it; and 8. not to see a word but those he is engaged on. 9. Grammar clogs the memory with imperfect recollections. 10. The beginner on the author's method will speak grammatically. 11. Children speak fluently with a small number of words, and 12. with nearly the same epitome of language all the world over. 13. A child with 200 words possesses the syntax and pronunciation. 14. Every foreign language should be epitomized for a beginner, by the framing of a set of strictly practical sentences, embodying 200 of the most useful words, and comprising all the most difficult constructions. 15. By this the greatest results with the least exertion; and time for study of pronunciation.—Now in this there is sense and method enough to make it clear that the writer is entitled to the attention of philologists and teachers of language. He gives illustrations on the Telugoo and Hindoostanee. At the end of the book is an account of a machine which it is said Mr. Long has tested by his personal application of it to ancient Greek. Not the eminent scholar, Prof. Long, but Mr. Alfred Long: this it is right to mention, for we shall be much surprised if Mr. George Long do not receive some requests for information about it. The machine itself is simple and ingenious, and supplies an unending power of varying exercises upon a few words. If we construct a simple sentence, and then vary its words without alteration of construction, we may, taking five words as an example, write down the following:—

This man is often cheerful
One woman was never surprised
The master will be sometimes present
No servant can be always watchful

Choose one word out of each column, and we have 256 grammatical possibilities: as "The man can be often watchful." Suppose the four words in each column written on four faces of a cube, and the five cubes placed in a box of five stalls, one side of the box being of glass. By shaking and turning over the box, the visible faces of the cubes are changed at hazard, giving different verbal variations of the phrase. Mr. Long's machine has upwards of 20 words in the sentence, and the number of possible sentences is millions of millions. A teacher of languages is often perplexed to give variety enough: a machine of this sort would help him and interest his pupils. And the variety is secured upon a small

number of words; only 84 where the sentence is of 21 words. Mr. A. Long has also applied the principle to a machine in which the elements are musical notes, as a suggestive help in composition. Walter Scott, we all know, suggested that such a contrivance might be used in writing the subordinate parts of novels; and Swift described the very thing as seen by Gulliver at Laputa. But the Laputians got philosophy out of the chance combinations: Mr. A. Long gets only exercise in grammar.

The Ox and his Diseases. By J. R. Dobson, V.S. (Longman & Co.).—The author says that he has no wish to make "every man his own cattle-doctor." It is, however, for the farmer and the stock-keeper that he declares his book to have been chiefly written, and it will certainly enable them often to decide, without professional advice, upon the treatment which their live stock may require. A great number of woodcuts are introduced for the explanation of the text, and the difficulties occasionally met with during parturition are in particular very fully illustrated in this way.

Waifs and Strays of North-Humber History. By the Rev. Scott F. Surtees. (J. R. Smith).—We rejoice to find a competent scholar demolishing the too popular theory that whatever be some of the records of early history, the facts were undoubtedly otherwise. Doubts have been thrown on the existence of Hengist and Horsa, whose names, signifying *mare* and *horse*, are supposed to have been the device on the banners of Saxon chiefs. But those chiefs must then have existed, and it is of small account whether their real, or what we may call their *hieroglyphic*, designations, have come down to us. All ancient history agrees in the services these Saxons rendered to Vortigern by driving back the "dusky swarm of vermine," as Gildas describes the invaders who descended from the North after the retirement of the Romans. Vortigern rewarded his foreign mercenaries by establishing them at what legend has called Thong-castre, with a silly tale touching the land inclosed by a bull's hide cut into a single thong. Mr. Surtees shows that this place was at Don-castre,—a fortified castle on the Don, where the chief Conan once resided, whose name is still preserved in Coningsburgh. The "burghs," "felds," "worths," "thorpes" and "tuns" which are attached to proper names connected with Hengist's alleged relatives, or possessing some other affinity with that commander, corroborate this view of the question. Of one of these places, Sprotburgh, Mr. Surtees is the rector, and from that "coign of vantage" he has surveyed the locality and the subject with combined zeal and success. A time ensued when, as our readers know, Hengist became as troublesome to the natives as they whom he vanquished had been. The scene of the last fight of this chief, who had his rich appanage in Kent, as well as territory about the ford of Don,—the closing battle fought against, and lost to Aurelius Ambrosius, has been disputed; but Mr. Surtees traces it almost field by field through the local names,—through traditional tales which, at first, seem to have no connexion with the old fact; and finally he shows the very spots where Hengist fell and was buried, the old names being preserved in the modern Ordnance Survey, into which no name gains admittance but with extreme caution on the part of those who adopt it as the proper and traditional appellation. In this map, near Strataford, is "Hengist's Run"; near it is "Esc-loe feld," referring to Hengist's son, Esc, who fled, and was allowed to retain his principality in Kent; close by is "King's grave-feld," the traditional burial-place of the chief; "Hangmen Stone" is a memorial of the captives who were hanged there; and the locality named Badon, which has led some writers to fix on Bath as the scene of the fight, is taken by Mr. Surtees to be a corruption of "Bead es Dun," the battle of the Don. These names have stood despite the Danish invasion, and that Norman conquest in which the Saxons acquiesced all the more resignedly as they had but small measure of respect for the ruthless Danish Jarls. Mr. Surtees has well established, as we take it, the fact that the modern Doncaster is an upstart town in the marshes, and

that the old ford of the Don was at Hengist's castle. On other points he must expect some little clamour, and we think the Colchester antiquaries will be sounding clarion and battering at his gates. They will never surrender their temple of Divus Claudius and the statue of the goddess of Victory to the North. Mr. Surtees will have to restore these waifs and strays.

Our Reprints comprise Miss Geraldine E. Jewsbury's *Marian Wither*, which Messrs. Chapman & Hall have added to their "Select Library of Fiction,"—and *Religious Duty*, by Frances Power Cobbe (Trübner & Co.). On our table we have a second edition of Mr. Rowell's *Essay on the Beneficent Distribution of the Sense of Pain* (Williams & Norgate),—and a third edition of Mr. Leatham's *Charmions: a Tale of the Great Athenian Revolution* (Simpkin, Marshall & Co.). Our Miscellanies include Mr. Erasmus Wilson's *Inquiry into the Relative Frequency, the Duration, and Cause of Diseases of the Skin, as deduced from the Observation of One Thousand Consecutive Cases* (Churchill & Sons.),—Vol. III. of Mr. Tytler's *History of Scotland* (Edinburgh, Nimmo),—*Christian Missionaries in India*, by Wishwanath Atmaram, a Hindoo of Bombay (Grattan),—*The Gazetteer of New South Wales* (Sydney, Sheriff & Downing),—Part I. of the "Enquire Within" and "Reason Why" Series (Houlston & Wright),—and from Mr. Partridge, *The Crosses of Childhood*; or, *Alice and her Friends*,—*Maria and the Seven Children*, by Mrs. Thomas Geldart,—and *Philip Markham's Two Lessons*, by the Author of "Dick and his Donkey."

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

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Miller's Elements of Chemistry, pt. 2, 3rd edit. 8vo. 21s. 6d.
Mott's Stones of Palestine, photo. illustrations, sm. 4to. 12s. 6d.
Moon's The Dean's English, 3rd edit. fcap. 8vo. 3s. 6d.
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Wordsworth's The Holy Bible, with Notes, &c., imp. 8vo. 81s. 6d.

THE LITERARY SEASON.

OUR announcements of coming books is far from being ended. Since our last issue the following houses have completed their arrangements:—

Mr. Bentley will publish during the season: 'Europe beyond the Sea,' by Viscount Bury, M.P.,—third and fourth volumes of 'The Lives of the Archbishops of Canterbury,' by Walter Farquhar Hook, D.D.,—'The Life of Charles James Fox,' by Earl Russell, third and concluding volume,—'The History of Greece to the Close of the Peloponnesian War,' by Dr. Curtius, translated by Miss Bunnell, under the superintendence of Dr. Curtius,—'Adam and the Adamite, the Harmony of Scripture and Ethnology,' by Dr. McCausland,—'Israel in the Wilderness, a Popular Account of the Journeyings of the Israelitish People, illustrated by the Inscriptions on the Rocks in the Wilderness,' by Rev. Charles Forster,—'Henrietta Caracciolo; or, Convent Life in Naples, a True Narrative,'—'A Century of Anecdote from 1750,' by John Timbs,—'The History of the Present American War, from its Commencement to the Conclusion of

the Campaign of 1863,' by Lieut.-Col. Fletcher, Fusilier Guards,—and 'A Popular History of Music,' by Dr. Schlüter, translated and edited by F. Cecilia Tubbs. Also the following new novels: 'Lord Lynn's Wife,'—'Uncle Silas,' by the author of 'Wylder's Hand,'—'Belfiore,' by the author of 'Ladies of Bever Hollow,'—'The Armourer's Daughter,' by the author of 'Whitefriars.'

Messrs. Macmillan, in addition to the work already announced in our columns, will publish 'Letters from Egypt,' by Lady Duff Gordon,—'The Story of Cawnpore,' by G. O. Trevelyan,—'Notes on Brazilian Affairs,' by W. D. Christie, late Her Majesty's Minister in Brazil.

Messrs. Griffith & Farran will shortly publish 'Echoes from an Old Bell, and other Tales of Fairy Lore,' by the Hon. Augusta Bethell,—'Fun and Earnest,' by D'Arcy W. Thompson, illustrated by Charles Bennett,—'Hacco the Dwarf, and other Tales,' by Lady Lushington,—'A Week by Themselves,' by E. Marryat Norris,—'Cross-patch, the Cricket and the Counterpane, a Patchwork of Story and Song,' by Mrs. Broderip, illustrated by her brother, Thomas Hood,—'The Happy Holidays; or, Brothers and Sisters at Home,' by Mrs. Davenport,—'Pictures of Girl Life,' by Miss Howell,—'The Primrose Pilgrimage,' by M. Betham Edwards,—'Merry Songs for Little Voices,' by Frances Freeling Broderip, set to music by T. Murby, with forty illustrations.

The Religious Tract Society are preparing for publication 'The Months illustrated by Pen and Pencil,' a Christmas volume of poetry and prose, with drawings by Barnes, Wimpey, Lee, North, Gilbert, Noel Humphreys, and others,—'A Hand-Book of English Literature,' by Dr. Angus,—a new volume of "The Wisdom of our Fathers," entitled 'Selections from the Works of Thomas Fuller,'—a work on 'The Promises of Scripture,' by Horatius Bonar,—'A History of Egypt, from the Fall of the Pharaohs to the Present Time,' by Canon Trevor, forming a companion volume to 'Ancient Egypt,' by the same author,—'Dawn to Dark in Italy,' an historical tale of the period of the Italian Reformation,—a work on 'The Christian Graces,' by Dr. Thompson, of New York.

A GIFT TO THE PUBLIC.

It has been long known that one of the finest collections of coins in the world was that possessed by Mr. Edward Wigan, of Highbury Terrace, and that his collection was particularly rich in the class of Roman Imperial coins. We have, therefore, much pleasure in stating that about two months since Mr. Wigan called upon Mr. Vaux, the Keeper of the Coins and Medals in the British Museum, and placed in his hands the whole of his Roman Imperial gold coins, with the request that Mr. Vaux and his colleagues would select from it such specimens as might be by them considered deserving a place in the National Collection. With this view, a careful and minute comparison has been instituted between the collection of coins of this class in the Museum,—already, since the donation by Mr. J. F. De Salis of his magnificent collection of similar coins, one of great value,—and that of Mr. Wigan; the result of which has been that 293 coins have been selected as representing specimens unique or unrepresented in the Museum Cabinets, together with some others which were chiefly remarkable for the beauty of their preservation.

The whole, or nearly all, of these coins have been described, with their individual values, in M. Cohen's well-known account of Roman Imperial Money, either from Mr. Wigan's collection, or, as has occasionally happened, before the coins came into his possession; hence, the collection Mr. Wigan has so munificently presented to the nation, which, on M. Cohen's estimate, unquestionably a low one, represents the large sum of 80,000 francs, has the additional value of having been carefully described in the most complete work on Roman money which has as yet issued from the press.

No donation of equal—or nearly equal value—without the exception of that by Mr. De Salis, has been ever made to the Museum during the lifetime of the owner: and we may well rejoice alike at the

liberality which has prompted such a gift, and at the spirit of self-sacrifice which has led Mr. Wigan to give up, at once and for ever, so large a number of the rarest and most beautiful Roman Coins that it has been the lot of any one man to bring together. It is difficult to make those who have no special knowledge on such subjects comprehend the value in the market of such a collection of ancient Coins. We may, however, notice here, as of peculiar beauty and rarity,—though it is impossible, in a limited space, to give any details,—a coin of Brutus, valued by M. Cohen at 1,000 francs; one of the Triumvir Lepidus, of the same value; one of Augustus and Agrippa, 1,500 francs; an Albinus, 1,500 francs; Diadumenianus, 1,500 francs; the Uranian Antoninus, valued at 2,500 francs, the only other known specimen being that formerly in the possession of Mr. De Salis, and given by him to the British Museum; and an Orbiana, a Gallienus, and a Causius, worth respectively 1,500 francs each.

ON THE SOTHIC OR SOTHIAIC CYCLE.

Temple, Oct. 8, 1864.

No trace of the Sothic Cycle has been found on any one of the monuments of Egypt, nor is any mention made of it earlier than Geminus, who could not be much before the beginning of the Dionysian era, if, indeed, he was not much later.

Censorinus, who wrote in the third century of the Dionysian era, gives an account of this cycle. The Egyptians had a year of only 365 days; and when the beginning of this year fell at the heliacal rising of the dog-star, they began the cycle, and reckoned until the beginning of this year fell at the rising of the dog-star again, which was in 1,461 such years.

But this account is plainly absurd. It supposes from one rising to the next 365½ days; but as Sothis could only rise heliacally in the morning, there could only be whole days from one rising to the next; and as for at least three years in succession it would rise on the same day of the year, no such period could be defined. Neither has sufficient computation shown any period when 1,461 such years elapsed between the rising of Sothis and the rising again.

The number 365 has been found on the monuments; but this only proves that the year was estimated at so many days. The testimony of Herodotus that the Egyptian year was made to agree with the seasons, and consequently was tropical, is conclusive. He says, indeed, that it was of 12 months of 30 days and five days over: which, as it stands, is a flat contradiction.

But this testimony of Herodotus being on the spot disposes of the absurd saying of Geminus, that the Egyptians adopted a year of 365 days in order that their festivals might fall at different seasons. Nobody knows when Geminus wrote, and we may fairly guess from his narrative that he never was in Egypt in his life.

Strabo is the first who speaks of intercalation,—that the Egyptians found that there was a part of a day more than 365 days, and that they made up a period of years, so as to have whole days and whole years; but he cannot tell how great this part was, nor how many days and years were in the period.

Diodorus is the first to be express and tell us plainly that the year of the Egyptians was 365½ days. But Diodorus, if I mistake not, wrote after the reformation of the Roman Calendar by Sosigenes, and after the fixed year had been introduced in Egypt.

Champollion believed that he had found plain signs of a year of 365 days, as the hieroglyphic signs for the seasons did not agree with the seasons in the fixed year. But M. de Rougé has now conclusively determined that Champollion was mistaken in the meaning of the signs, and that no proof of a year of 365 days can be drawn from that.

The only embarrassment in the whole question is the testimony of Herodotus; which, however, is a plain contradiction as it stands, and nothing can be conclusively said from it.

But nothing whatever shows that the Egyptians ever knew more than that the year was estimated at 365 days; nothing shows that they knew of a quarter day to be added, or any other quantity.

M. Biot indeed suggested, and M. Mariette tested, a method of determining the year which the Egyptians might have used. It is the single and solitary fact in favour of some science, that the Pyramids are oriented, and by observing the rising and setting of the sun along the northern or southern sides, the equinox might be approximately determined. But nothing shows that the Egyptians knew anything of an equinox, or had acquired even that knowledge of the doctrine of the sphere, that the plane of the equator cuts the horizon east and west. Nothing shows that it was ever used. The Grecians for many a long year observed only the solstice, and when they first observed the equinox, it was by a method which would give a fraction of a day. It would be many a long year before the method of M. Biot would give such fraction.

Among the Grecians we know the progress of science; we know that they had scientific books on Astronomy and recorded observations. Whether the Octaeterid was ever in use before the time of Callippus I doubt. Callippus would hardly have made his period of seventy-six years when doubling the number would have made the Octaeterid and Metonic cycle agree. No ancient author mentions the Octaeteris; the later Grecians ascribe it to Cleostratus, to Eudoxus, and to others, as its authors, with no certainty, but merely fastening it to a known name. If Eratosthenes wrote upon the Octaeterid he was later than Callippus.

But Meton would not have determined the year at 365½ days, had it not been that the Octaeterid was not known; and the correction of Callippus would have been mere nothing had it only gone back to the time of the Octaeterid.

In fact, the year was determined by Meton at 365½ from observations of the solstices; by Callippus at 365½; and by Hipparchus at 365½—½. This determination of the length of the year was adopted by Ptolemy. The estimate of the year was not made at 365½ before Callippus. No earlier writer of any kind ever mentions it as such. From that time to the time of Hipparchus it must have been known as such. But from Hipparchus it must have been discarded among scientific men. When Sosigenes made a practical reformation of the Italian Calendar, it was adopted by him as a practical rule, for according to Hipparchus it would go wrong by a day only in 300 years.

If Geminus wrote after Sosigenes, it is odd that he never refers to the Julian year; but, indeed, he never refers to the Latin Calendar. This must have determined him to speak only of the Grecian year.

The first scientific determination of the length of the year at 365½ days was by Callippus, comparing his own observations with those of Meton; but it was not, as it were, of public right. The first public exposition of it was by Sosigenes, which made it first public at Rome and Alexandria, but not in Greece.

The year of 365 days was certainly a year of the astronomers of Alexandria. The astronomer reckons by days. He uses the equinoctial point to reckon his longitudes by, and for the sun's place, so that the length of the year is material; but his reckoning from one event to another is by days. The year of 365 days is, no doubt, sufficient for this: and while the fraction was uncertain it was natural that they should use it; especially as the tropical year was estimated at so much by the Egyptians, being 12 months of 30 days and 5 days.

The manner of it I take to be this: the Egyptians began their year by the actual observation of the rising of Sothis. They made an estimate of this at 365 days; but, by the method of commencing the year, the intercalation would follow of itself, but in a loose and irregular way.

The Sothic cycle would be, I apprehend, later than Sosigenes. Geminus makes the year of 365½ days. It would be a violent hypothesis that Geminus wrote after Hipparchus's commentary on Aratus, but before his book on the solar year.

The Sothic cycle was applied to the whole range of Egyptian fabulous history after the time of Africanus, and appears, I apprehend, in the arrangements in Eusebius.

A lunar year appears upon the monuments of Egypt. But at the time of the Rosetta Stone, if

the Macedonian year was lunar, the Egyptian was not. The 6th of Xanthicus is the 18th of Mesori. It would be a violent hypothesis that the month began in the one at the reneuing, and in the other at the full of the moon. In the Isis and Osiris or Plutarch, the feast days seem to be lunar.

But all that I think can be well and securely determined is, that the Egyptian year was the return of seed-time and harvest, as M. de Rougé has so well shown. That a year of 365 days, with movable beginning, was never in use at all. That it was used only by the astronomers of Alexandria. That the Egyptians had never determined the fraction of a day. That it was not determined to be a quarter before Callippus. That it was made public by Sosigenes; and that, after his time, the Sothic cycle was invented. But whether to do honour to the Antonines or not, I see no grounds for determining.

JAMES BROWN.

THE POSSESSIVE AUGMENT.

Brookwood Park, Alresford.

SHOULD not the word *augment*, in grammar, be reserved for *prefaces* such as those to the Greek and German verb? The possessive *s* is a case, that is, a variation of termination. It comes to us from the Sanscrit, Zend, Lithuanian, Gothic, German and Saxon; and, as Bopp shows, it is to be traced in the Greek and Latin, though it was *lost* in some declensions. The possessive *s* does not of necessity *augment* the word, as, for instance, the high German *blinder, blindes*, the modern German adjectives *guter, gutes; der, des*. It is, however, only the northern European languages which preserve a genitive case at all. We English, or the Germans, may talk either of Rome's glory or the glory of Rome. But the modern Roman cannot. He has no such choice. He has no case at all. He has no *Roma*, but only *di Roma*. *Roma* (like all other southern nouns) has become inflexible and undeclined. But the genitive is the only case which our *analogous* English language has; and we must not argue from the grammar of the *transpositive* Latin language, and suppose the possibility of an English ablative, as your Correspondent, in the *Athenæum* (No. 1926), does. He also says, "In one horse of Jackson's the notion of *more* horses of Jackson's is as decided as can be." A horse of Jackson's is one horse of Jackson's by contraction. It is curious that we English alone of all nations, ancient or modern, have a *bond fide* indefinite article, distinct from *one*, though contracted from *one* and meaning *one*. No nation but ourselves could use such expressions as "give me half a *one*," "not such a *one* as that," "give me a ripe *one*." The French Academy give only one article, the definite *le*. It is true that modern French grammarians give even a third or partitive article, *du, as du pain*. The Latins have no article at all. The Greeks have a perfect definite article, *ὁ ἦ το*, and it is used to denote the gender. It is, as the Germans would say, a *Geschlechtswort*. But the Eton Greek Grammar makes a mistake in translating *ὁ ἦ το* as *hic, hæc, hoc*. *Hic, hæc, hoc*, as well as *ille, illæ, illud*, are pronouns. So is *ὁ ἦ το*, which the Grammar calls a relative or subjunctive article. To translate *ὁ ἦ το* as *dominus ille* Jesus is also a mistake. The *ille* in Latin is not essential to the sentence, the Greek *ὁ* is. The French have only two genders; and the third gender of other nations is a sort of a bull, for it denies its own existence by declaring itself of no gender at all—neuter. With us English alone the articles and adjectives do not change for gender. When pronouns are used, they agree with the nouns they stand for, which is not the case in other languages; so that we should say *his, her* or *its* art, according as it was a man's, woman's, or spider's art. In Latin, whether the artifex or artifices are masculine, feminine or neuter, they would always "*arte perire sud*." Thus it is only with us English that gender is always according to nature, and not arbitrarily stamped on each particular noun.

GEORGE GREENWOOD, Colonel.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE work announced by Messrs. Macmillan & Co., 'Spiritual Philosophy, founded on the Teaching of S. T. Coleridge,' is an attempt made by a very

distinguished man of science and disciple of Coleridge's, the late Mr. J. H. Green, author of 'Vital Dynamics,' to give systematic and coherent form to the philosophical teaching of that great and influential, though somewhat desultory, writer. Mr. Green was, for fifteen years of Coleridge's life, in constant and intimate intercourse with him. When Coleridge died, he left Mr. Green all his papers and annotated books, and appointed him his literary executor. It was long believed, in many quarters, that Coleridge had actually written himself such a system as is now to be published. This mistake arose, no doubt, from the manner in which Coleridge often spoke of purposes conceived by him, as if they were already executed. No such written system ever existed, even in a partial state. Students of philosophy will now, for the first time, have an opportunity of seeing what that system was, as conceived by a disciple, qualified by ability, appreciation, and opportunity of knowing about it.

A good many people seem to feel more or less objection to the burning of our New Palace of Westminster. Some object on the ground that Sir Edward Barry's work is a fine specimen of Gothic architecture, others on the ground that whether good or bad, it cost the nation two millions sterling. In case of its destruction it would need to be replaced by another edifice, which might chance to be worse. Still, the danger is not only present, but may be described as imminent. A fire not only may occur among the neighbouring piles of straw, but by way of warning, has actually occurred already, so that the Board of Works can labour under no delusion about it. Some time in the early part of last year, the identical straw so conveniently laid at the Palace door caught fire, and was prevented with considerable difficulty from extending its ravages to the small studios adjoining the yard, in which the Messrs. Ward and Cope were painting their two last frescoes. The same little studios, built of wood, with a felt roof well tarred, stand between the Palace and the straw, ready to contribute their quota to a conflagration. Another fire of Westminster seems to be only a question of time and accident, unless Mr. Cowper should intervene.

A General Meeting of teachers and students of the Working Men's College will be held on Thursday next, when Mr. Maurice will deliver an address. The first term of the eleventh year will begin on the Monday after, and special classes will be formed for the study of physiology, botany, and logic, in addition to the ordinary classes.

On Monday next, an exhibition of Industrial Art will be opened in the Agricultural Hall, at Islington. There will be a luncheon, a little music, a speech by Earl Russell, and some other formalities; but the fact of main interest will be the collection made by the artist-workmen of northern London.

A remarkably fine fossil head of *Elephas prisniensis* has been found in the Pleistocene sands and clay at Ilford. The upper molars remain in place, and both tusks have also been preserved, one still in the socket, but seemingly having been twisted round by the weight of the head, when the fleshy tissue of its attachment had decomposed, and before the skeleton was finally embedded in the soil. The tusks are of spiral curvature, and measure along their median line above 10 feet 6 inches in length. No such perfect skull of the true Mammoth has ever been found in England, nor anything comparable with this important example, so far as we are aware, except it may be the fine fossil elephant in the Chichester Museum, a specimen of which we have heard, but have not seen. The present specimen in scientific value can only be classed with the famous one at St. Petersburg, and we are glad to add that it has, by the promptitude of Mr. Waterhouse and the Trustees, been obtained for our National Collection; while to Mr. Davis, who was despatched by the Museum authorities to extricate this gigantic fragile mass from the rough loose earth of the quarry, too much praise cannot be given for the successful manner in which he has accomplished that difficult task.

The following note from the Editor of the *Essex Telegraph* on the case of the book-begging critic,

is in every way satisfactory, except as to the pretended reviewer:—

"Colchester, Oct. 6, 1864.

"I am in receipt of your favour of the 5th instant, disclosing the name of the writer to the publishing-house of Messrs. Blackie & Son, for books, on account of the *Essex Telegraph*, to be reviewed by him, as exposed in your impression of October 1, 1864. Allow me to state, in defence of the character of our journal, that the writer of the letter in question is not, and to the best of my knowledge never was, in any way connected with the *Essex Telegraph*, and that he had no authority whatever to ask for books in our name. We shall at once call upon the delinquent to give some explanation of the matter. At the same time accept my thanks for drawing attention to the disgraceful practice with which the *Essex Telegraph* was most unjustly associated.—I remain, &c.

"THE EDITOR OF THE 'ESSEX TELEGRAPH.'"

The embankment of Thames Way is in satisfactory progress; between Waterloo Bridge and Temple Gardens a length of 120 feet of the dam is completed and made water-tight. It is good news that three great sewers on the south side of the Thames have for a month past been closed, so that nearly the whole of the drainage from Nine Elms downwards is intercepted and conveyed to Crossness. When London is perfectly drained by intercepting channels men will discover that the Thames is half-poisoned by the towns above. What is to be done with Oxford and Kingston filth is now the question.

We may congratulate the public upon the prospect offered to the City of London of securing Southwark Bridge to its proper use. The Bridge Company has offered to open the Bridge free for traffic for six months, dating from the 1st proximo, and to keep it in repair, for the sum of 1,834*l.* If it be thought desirable to retain it open for a second period of six months, the price asked is 2,754*l.*, making in all, for a year, 4,588*l.* The Bridge House Committee has recommended the Court of Common Council to accept this offer, and it is probable that at last the bridge will be useful. The negotiations have in view the future purchase of the structure; the price asked is 200,000*l.*, a very moderate sum considering the perfect condition of the bridge, and the certainty that, when toll-free, it will relieve London Bridge and Cheapside of a large portion of their dangerous throngs of vehicles, and save valuable time to many passengers. Such is the force of habit upon the minds of drivers and pedestrians, that we must not expect to find even twelve months too long a time for the development of the usefulness of the bridge; the experience of New Cannon Street is significant on this point. With the prospect of securing Southwark Bridge for service, comes regret that Southwark Street was not planned to lead up to it, as might have been done, by carrying its line to the north, instead of to the south of the brewery, and in the route of Park Street and New Park Street. This would have given access to the bridge from the south-east, and south-west, and gone far to remedy one of the original faults of its arrangement, i. e. defective approaches from the south side. Much may yet be done in this respect by rounding off a few corners of streets in the route indicated. The total cost of the bridge and its approaches was nearly 700,000*l.*; the centre span is 240 feet; those on the side 210 feet each; the centre arch is 45 feet above high-water mark. The first stone was laid by Lord Keith, May 23, 1815; the works were begun in 1813, and the bridge was opened at midnight March 24, 1819.

Messrs. Virtue Brothers will shortly publish 'Steps and Stages on the Road to Glory,' by the author of 'God is Love.'

A literary friend calls attention to a trifle of some importance:—"Mr. Editor,—Is it worth while, at this time of the year, to give a hint to the getters-up of cheap almanacks, that usefulness is by no means incompatible with accuracy? I am in the habit of using one which has several respectable names attached to it, and is entitled 'Tilt's Useful Almanack.' It is a nice little sheet, which hangs in a snug corner of my dressing-room, very con-

venient for reference at any time. Turning to it this morning, to find what day of the month next Wednesday week would be, I found that it would not only be the 19th October (which I expected), but to my astonishment discovered that it would be a very interesting anniversary. The whole entry stands thus:—"October 19. W. Chas. I. behd. 1600." Guess my amazement at this piece of historical information. I involuntarily exclaimed, 'How very curious! and how hard upon his mother!' in which last ejaculation I think you will concur with me if you bear in mind that this unfortunate son of Anne of Denmark was not born until a month after the date here assigned to his decapitation. But the oddity is not at an end. I find that under the 30th of January, the day ordinarily assigned for the best known of these events, my Useful Almanack tells me again that Charles I. was beheaded. Gracious goodness, what cruel fellows those Roundheads were! Attracted by these discoveries I looked a little further afield. Running my finger up October, I found that the 4th was dedicated to 'St. Faithful.' Indeed! thought I, who is that? Has Emily Faithfull received her reward? Has she been exalted to the state of beatification before her time? Or has Pio Nono, building again upon some new Development of Christian Doctrine, raised to the heavenly peerage the martyr of John Bunyan's Vanity Fair?—very creditable to him if he has done so. If such an occurrence has taken place, I suppose it happened at some time when I was out of town and lived the life of an Angel, unpestered with newspapers;—of course I except the *Athenæum* and *Notes and Queries*, which are necessities of existence, but they do not give lists of spiritual promotions. Transferring my attention from October to September, my eye caught at a glance, on the 3rd of that month, 'Cromwell b. 1598.' Shades of Dunbar and Worcester, and that great Shade which was released from the troubles of earth on the dark and stormy 3rd of September, 1658, what can ye think of such ignorance! I might follow the subject much further, choice examples of similar attention to matters of fact crowd upon me as I extend my inquiries, but it is not my wish to crush a butterfly. May an explanation of these circumstances be found in the fact that whilst Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, who 'bless the bed that I lie on,' or such of them and the other apostolic saints (save one) as are mentioned in the 'Useful,' hide their diminished heads under very small type, St. Peter and St. Patrick stand displayed in the full-blown dignity of the largest capital letters? If the connexion between History and an Old Almanack which has long been asserted be anything more than a myth, surely the poor Muse will soon be in a pretty pickle, unless you come to her protection against her good-for-nothing relations.—Yours &c., J. B."

A report has reached London from Sierra Leone of the death of M. Jules Gérard, the traveller, known under the name of the "lion-killer." M. Gérard is said to have been drowned in the river Jong, 120 miles from Sierra Leone. Like the similar reports as to Dr. Livingstone, we trust the report may prove to be unfounded.

The last troubadour of France, the poet Jasmin, of Agen, died a few days ago, following his colleague in poetry, Reboul of Nîmes, into the grave. Jasmin, like Allan Ramsay before him, followed the humble profession of hairdresser. His poetical talent, combined with a kind heart and a pure, blameless life, won esteem and acknowledgment for him, not only in his native town, but wherever his name was mentioned. M. de Salvandy was his special protector during the July monarchy; in 1846, he had an audience of Louis-Philippe, and received a decoration. He was born in 1798, and his first poetry appeared in 1825. His verses were written almost invariably in the Gascon dialect; the few attempts which he made to write in academical French have not succeeded. One of his poems, 'The Blind Girl of Castel-Cuillé' ('L'Aboglo de Castel-Cuillé'), has been translated into English, by Longfellow.

M. Rivadeneyra, publisher, at Madrid, whose printing bears comparison with the first publishing firms in France, Belgium, and Germany, has received the gold medal by the Emperor of the

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French, in acknowledgment of his great merits in the publishing line; merits which can only rightly be appreciated by those who are acquainted with the difficulties that beset the path of a Spanish publisher. In spite of these, M. Rivadeneyra had conceived the plan of publishing a new edition of 'Don Quixote,' at Argamasilla, in La Mancha, in the very house where Cervantes was kept a prisoner. This project has been carried out with the greatest perseverance; a printing-office sprung up in the desert, as one might say, and produced two editions of 'Don Quixote'; one of a smaller, and another of a larger size, which latter is printed most splendidly; in fact, it is a work of Art in every respect.

MR. MORBY'S COLLECTION OF MODERN HIGH-CLASS PICTURES IS ON VIEW at the Royal Exchange Fine Arts Gallery, 54, Cornhill. This Collection contains examples of Phillips, R.A.—Stanfield, R.A.—Roberts, R.A.—Goodall, R.A.—Cooke, R.A.—Ward, R.A.—Maclean, R.A.—Pickersill, R.A.—T. Ford, A.R.A.—Robson, A.R.A.—Cooper, A.R.A.—Leighton, A.R.A.—Calderson, A.R.A.—Sant, A.R.A.—Andell, A.R.A.—Linnell, sen.—P. Nasmyth—Holman Hunt—Gale—Duffield—Miss Motter—Baxter—Meissonier—Gérôme—Gallat—Willems—Feyta—Auguste Bonheur, &c.—Admission on presentation of address card.

SCIENCE

BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

SECTION A.—MATHEMATICAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCE.

MONDAY.

'Report of the Balloon Committee,' Col. SYKES Chairman.

'Account of Balloon Ascents,' by Mr. JAMES GLAISHER.—The Committee on balloon experiments was appointed last year for the following purposes:—To examine the electrical condition of the air at different heights; to verify the law of the decrease of temperature; and to compare the constants in different states of the atmosphere. With respect to the first of these objects, no progress had been made with the exception of preparing an instrument and apparatus for the investigation. At the request of the Committee, Mr. Fleeming Jenkin undertook the construction of the best instrument for the purpose, and one was finished towards the end of 1863, but it was constructed to be used with fire; it has since had to be adapted for water—a constant flow of which is necessary in electrical experiments in balloons. This apparatus Mr. Glaisher was requested by the Committee not to use, as they felt that these instruments, if exerting no influence while the balloon was rising, might, when it was falling, throw considerable doubt on the experiments relating to humidity. With respect to the second of these objects, the verifying the law of the decrease of temperature in different states of the atmosphere, the Committee considered would be best attained by taking as many observations as possible, at times in the year, and at times in the day, at which no experiments had been made, for the purpose of determining whether the laws which hold good at one time hold good at other times of the year, and also to determine whether the laws which hold good at noon apply equally well at all other times of the day. The Committee have always pressed the importance of magnetic observations in the higher regions of the air; the Astronomer Royal suggesting the use of a horizontal magnet, and taking the times of its vibration at different elevations, a method which is seldom practicable, owing to the almost constant revolution of the balloon. To obviate this, Dr. Lloyd suggested the use of a dipping-needle placed horizontally when on the ground, by means of a magnet above it, so that, when in the balloon, the deviation from horizontality might be noticed, and which deviation would be independent of rotary motion of the balloon. The latter method has not yet been tried, Dr. Lloyd wishing some experiments to be made before the instrument was constructed; at Newcastle a very general wish being expressed that very high ascents should not again be attempted, none above five miles had since been made. Mr. Glaisher then gave an account of the ascents made by him during the past year. The first was from Newcastle, on the 31st of August. The balloon left the earth at 6h. 12m. P.M., with a north wind, and descended

at five minutes past 7, at Pitlington, near Durham. The decrease of temperature within the first 200 feet of the earth in this ascent was very remarkable, no such rapid decrease having been found in any other ascents. On the ground the temperature was 64°, and by the time 200 feet had been attained, a decrease of 8 degrees had taken place, the temperature being 56°; from this height to 1,200 feet, there was but little change, and above this the temperature decreased from 2° to 3½° in each succeeding 1,000 feet, up to 7,000 feet, when the balloon entered a relatively warmer current of air. The second ascent, on the 29th of September, 1863, was from Wolverhampton. The gas on this occasion had been prepared in July, expressly for a high ascent intended to have taken place before the Newcastle Meeting, but circumstances prevented this being made, and the gas was obligingly stored in the gasometer by the directors of the gas-works. The balloon left at 7h. 43m. A.M., wind S.W. At 8,200 feet there were two layers of clouds below the balloon and very dense clouds above. When at 11,000 feet, the clouds were still a mile higher; there was a sea of blue-tinged cloud below, and peeps of the earth were seen through the breaks. At 13,000 feet, high clouds were still above; but after this they began to dissipate, and at 9h. 38m., at 14,000 feet, the sun shone brightly. Ten minutes afterwards the travellers discovered the Wash at a distance of only ten miles, and were compelled to descend. A south-west gale was blowing, and so strong was the wind that on the grapnels taking the ground near Sleaford, at 10h. 30m., the balloon was rent from top to bottom. In this ascent warm currents were met with at 8,000 and 13,500 feet. In the descent a warm current was passed through, extending from 14,000 to 9,000 feet. Temperature at the ground on leaving 48°; at time of descent 53°. On passing out of the mist at 3,000 feet the humidity declined to 58° at 8,000 feet; here there were dense clouds both above and below; at 9,000 feet the humidity was 71°; and then the air became suddenly dry. The third ascent was made from the Crystal Palace, at 4h. 29m. P.M. on the 9th of October. In seventeen minutes it was 7,300 feet high, and directly over London Bridge, and all the vast number of buildings comprising the whole of London could be clearly seen. There were neither warm nor cold currents met with on this day. The Secretary of State for War having granted permission to the Committee to avail themselves of the facilities afforded in the Royal Arsenal at Woolwich, the ascent of the 12th of January was made from thence. It was intended to have been made on the 21st of December previous, and from time to time the balloon had been partially inflated. It left at 2h. 7m. P.M., and in 14 minutes had crossed the Tilbury Railway, and was over Hainault Forest; at 3h. 31m. the height of 12,000 feet was attained, when the balloon began to descend and touched the ground at 4h. 10m. at Lakenheath. On the earth the wind was S.E.; at 1,800 feet a strong S.W. current was entered, in which the balloon continued up to 4,000 feet, when the wind changed to S. At 8,000 feet the wind changed to S.S.W., and afterwards to S.E.E. At 11,000 feet, fine granular snow was met with; and the balloon passed through snow on descending, till within 8,000 feet of the earth. Clouds were entered at 7,000 feet, which merged at about 6,000 feet into mist. This ascent is the only one ever made in January for scientific purposes. The fifth ascent was designed to have been made as near the 21st of March as possible, but through adverse weather was deferred to the 6th of April. The balloon left Woolwich at 4h. 7m. P.M. with a S.E. wind, ascending evenly at the rate of 1,000 feet in about three minutes, till 11,000 feet was attained at 4h. 37m. It descended in the Wilderness Park, near Sevenoaks in Kent. Its course was most remarkable, having passed over the Thames into Essex; the balloon, unknown to the aeronauts, must have repassed the river and moved in a directly opposite direction, and so continued till it approached the earth, when it again moved in the same direction as at first. The ascent is remarkable for the small decrease in temperature with increase of elevation. The air at the period of starting was 45½°, and did not decline at all until after reaching 300 feet, after which it decreased gra-

dually to 33° at 4,800 feet. A warm current was then entered, and the temperature increased till 7,500 feet was attained, when 40° were attained, being the same as had been experienced at 1,500 feet. It then decreased to 34° at 8,800 feet, and then increased slowly to 37° at 11,000 feet, a temperature which had been experienced at the heights of 8,500, 6,500, and 3,000 feet in ascending. After the great injury to the balloon on the 29th of September, in addition to the repairs it had previously undergone, Mr. Coxwell did not consider it, after the additional rough usage in the last two voyages, safe for extreme high ascents, and determined to build a new one; which he did, capable of containing 10,000 cubic feet more gas than the old one, so that, if need be, two observers could ascend together to the height of five miles. A new balloon, however, needs trying in low ascents until it proves gas-tight, before it can be used for great elevations; and, on June 13, it was therefore started on a small ascent from the Crystal Palace, at 7 o'clock; the sky cloudless and the air perfectly clear, except in the direction of London. An elevation of 1,000 feet was reached in 1½ minute, 3,000 feet at 7h. 8m., when the balloon descended to 2,300 feet, and then re-ascended to 3,400, when, after a slight dip, it again ascended to 3,550 feet, the highest point by 7h. 28m., and then, after some oscillations, began its downward course at 7h. 50m. from 2,800 feet, reaching the ground at East Horndon, five miles from Brentwood, at 8h. 14m. The remarkable feature in this voyage being that below 1,800 feet elevation there was scarcely any change of temperature until the earth was reached. This fact, of no change in the temperature of the air at the time of sunset was very remarkable, for it indicated that if such be a law, the law of decrease of temperature with increase of elevation may be reversed at night for some distance from the earth. June 20th the balloon left Derby at 17 minutes past 6 P.M. and descended near Newark. June 27, the balloon ascended from the Crystal Palace at 6h. 33½m., the sky cloudy, wind west. The descent was made on Romney Marsh, 5 miles from the shore. These several trial trips of the new balloon were made, and it was gradually becoming gas-tight, when its lamentable destruction at Leicester took place. The Mayor of that town has recently presided over a meeting for the purpose of collecting subscriptions to assist Mr. Coxwell to rebuild a new balloon; and we concur in Mr. Glaisher's wish that the town of Leicester and the Foresters' Society will soon remove the stigma resting upon them. Mr. Coxwell since then has had recourse to the old balloon, which he had repaired as best he could, and the next and last ascent of which Mr. Glaisher had to speak was made with it, on August 29, from the Crystal Palace, at 4h. 6m. The difference between the temperatures of the air and those of the dew-point in this ascent was rather remarkable. The most important point in the past year's experiments are:—That though the law of decrease of temperature under ordinary circumstances in the summer months is pretty well determined, we cannot say such a law holds good throughout the year; nor can we say that the laws which are in force during the day will be in force at night. In carrying out these experiments, Mr. Glaisher said he had freely given up all his leisure, and that Mr. Coxwell had done the same in the most unselfish manner; indeed, had it not been for the generous spirit in which Mr. Coxwell had entered into these experiments, they never could have been made, except at a multiple of the cost that had been incurred.

'On the Geometrical Transformation of Plane Curves,' by Prof. CREMONA, of Bologna.—Mr. Hirst communicated several interesting theorems recently obtained by Prof. Cremona, in his investigations on the Transformations of Plane Curves. The transformation in question will be found described in the *Giornale di Matematiche* (Vol. I.) of Naples.

'On Photo-Sculpture,' by M. A. CLAUDET.—From flat photographs, a bust, a statue, or other object of three dimensions can be made by a mechanical process without the necessity of the sculptor's copying the original, or even seeing it at all. This application of photography, called *Photo-*

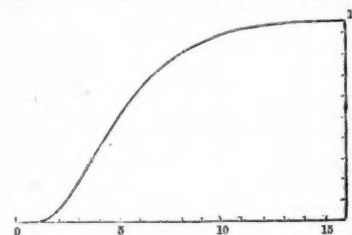
Sculpture, is the invention of M. Willème, an eminent French sculptor. M. Willème was in the habit, whenever he could procure photographs of his sitters, of endeavouring to communicate to the model the correctness of those unerring types. But how should he raise the outlines of flat pictures into a solid form? By means of one of the points of a pantograph he could follow the outline of the photograph, while, with the other point directed on the model, he ascertained and corrected any error which had been communicated to his work during the modelling. What he could do with one single photograph of the sitter, he might do also with several other views if he had them. He saw at once that if he had photographs of many other profiles of the sitter, taken at the same moment, by a number of cameras placed around, he might alternately and consecutively correct his model by comparing the profile outline of each photograph with the corresponding outline of the model. But it soon occurred to him, that instead of correcting his model when nearly completed, he had better work at once with the pantograph upon the rough block of clay, and cut it out gradually all round in following one after the other the outline of each of the photographs. Now, supposing that he had twenty-four photographs, representing the sitter in as many points of view (all taken at once), he had but to turn the block of clay after every operation 1-24th of the base upon which it was fixed, and to cut out the next profile, until the block had completed its entire revolution, and then the clay was transformed into a perfect solid figure of the twenty-four photographs. As photography has already been the means of copying the paintings of celebrated masters, so photo-sculpture will be the means of reproducing works in sculpture without depriving us of any of the attributes which have made them famous. It will further be applied to the representations of animals, showing them in true and natural attitudes; by this means faithful models will be introduced in the manufacture of porcelain, clocks, furniture, and much that contributes to the embellishment of our dwellings. The author thought he could not give to the Meeting a better illustration of the process of photo-sculpture than by executing a bust of their President, Sir Charles Lyell, specimens of which and of statuettes and busts of other eminent personages were exhibited on the table during the reading of the paper.

'On the Spectra of some of the Heavenly Bodies,' by Dr. W. A. MILLER and Mr. HUGGINS.—This paper possessed remarkable interest from the extraordinary discoveries announced, and especially for the information obtained by Mr. Huggins, by spectral analysis, of the constitution of certain nebulae. These important investigations are now being printed by the Royal Society; but the following will be found to be a correct report of the oral summary given by Dr. Miller to the Section:—Dr. Miller stated that the spectral analysis of the heavenly bodies, of which Mr. Huggins and he had given an account in a paper recently communicated to the Royal Society, had since been continued, and he had now some most important facts to communicate to the Section. The facts obtained were of three classes: those relating to the planetary spectra, those of the double stars, and those, which were Mr. Huggins's entirely, of the spectra of nebulae. The planetary bodies were examined by a telescope of eight inches diameter and ten feet focal length. The point of light given by the star was spread into a small line by means of a cylindrical lens, and was then resolved, by two highly-refracting prisms, into a spectral image. It is well known that the adaptation of a small prism to the slit of the spectroscope enables the spectrum of one substance to be superposed over that of another substance; but when it was desired, as it was absolutely necessary to do, to compare the planetary spectrum with that of absolute sunlight, the difficulty of comparing the lines in the light reflected from a planet, visible only at night, with those in the light of the sun, visible only during the day, had to be overcome. And this was accomplished by comparing the sunlight reflected down from the atmosphere after sunset with the light of the planet when it first became visible. In this way, the lines

in the spectrum of Jupiter had been compared with the Fraunhofer's lines, and those produced by the absorptive action of the atmosphere, in the solar spectrum. It had been thought from the earlier experiments that the spectra of the planets corresponded with that of the moon and of all bodies illumined by the sun; but, then, recent experiments proved some interesting facts relating to the composition and constitution of the planetary atmosphere were to be obtained by these investigations; for various series of new lines were observed indicative of the presence, in greater or less quantity, of substances which absorbed certain lines of light. Are those, then, distinctive characters in the atmospheres of the planets? It should be stated that the spectra of the planets are not easily rendered capable of examination. The light of a planet consists of a portion of the rays radiated from a disc, and a portion only of the light reflected from it therefore passes through the slit of the spectroscope, and the spectrum is often exceedingly faint; while the star, being a luminous point, the whole of its light passes in to form the spectrum. Dr. Miller exhibited on the black board a rough drawing of two remarkable lines in the spectrum of Jupiter in comparison with certain lines in the solar spectrum. One of these was a band nearly midway between C and D, which was much stronger in the planetary than in the solar spectrum; the other, beyond D, was stronger in the air spectrum than in that of the planet. Now, the light which comes to us from Jupiter was originally like the light which comes direct to us; but before it reaches us it has passed through the atmosphere of Jupiter twice and our own atmosphere once; and thus any absorptive influence in the atmospheres of the planet and of our earth would be considerable. But the light reflected from the sky when the sun is just below the horizon, having to traverse a very much greater stratum of the earth's atmosphere of high density, necessarily would experience a greater absorption than the light which reaches us through the comparatively thin stratum of the earth's atmosphere interposed between the observer and the planet; unless, therefore, the planetary atmosphere exerted an absorbent action, all the lines due to the action of the earth's atmosphere should, in the light from Jupiter, appear fainter. Some were really fainter, some of equal intensity, and one between C and D is much stronger. There are some bands, however, in the spectrum of Jupiter which are near to, but do not correspond with, the compound oxygen and nitrogen lines, which prove that the material which absorbs those particular portions of the spectrum exists in the air of Jupiter in larger proportions than in the terrestrial atmosphere. The atmosphere of Mars absorbs certain rays in the blue end of the spectrum in special manner; and the loss of these is not due to mere diminution of light, but is of such a character as to prove it to be due to some gaseous absorptive material. Certain double stars, it is known, are strongly contrasted in colour—some orange, some green, others bluish, or red, and to examine them side by side in the spectroscopic is a matter of great difficulty, on account of their difference of size and light; while, from their proximity, the examining instrument is liable to be sufficiently disturbed by shakes and accidents as to put one or the other out of the field of view. The labour, too, is extremely fatiguing to the eye on account of their difference in brightness. The spectroscopic examinations have detected in some which have been examined—a Hercules and β Cygni—bands which satisfactorily account for their differences in colour. The spectra of the nebulae are, however, the most remarkable of any results yet obtained. There are various kinds of nebulae; but their general faintness is such that, but for the singular peculiarity of their light being nearly monochromatic, or but of one degree of refrangibility only, it would be impossible to examine their spectra at all. The nebulae which Mr. Huggins had observed are six of these planetary nebulae, besides about an equal number of nebulae with a more or less distinctly brighter luminous centre. The intent of the inquiry is, What is the condition of the nebulous matter? Is it highly gaseous, expanded to an enormous area in space? or is it

luminosity caused, as some have considered, by myriads of solid masses coming into collision, and thus that their heat and light are revealed by the telescope? Mr. Huggins's observations go to show that in some, at least, of these nebulae there is no solid matter at all. Some of these bodies noticed by Herschel are very uniform in illumination, and even by Lord Rosse's telescope cannot be made to show any signs of being resolvable into clusters of stars. The nebulae 37 H iv. in Draco, 6 Σ in Tauri, 73 H iv. in Cygnus, 61 H iv. in Sagittarius, 1 H iv. in Aquarius, and the annular nebulae in Lyra, have been observed. In 37 H iv. there is one band of maximum brilliancy between δ and F, about one-third of the distance from δ , which closely corresponds with the brightest line in the spectrum of nitrogen; and nearer to F is another line near to, but not coincident with, one of the brightest spectral lines of Barium. There is a faint line at F seemingly due to hydrogen. Herschel has stated that the mass of one of these planetary nebulae, if distant from us as far as 61 Cygni, would fill a space equal in diameter to seven times that of the orbit of Neptune; and hence, were it not that the light was concentrated nearly into a single line, its examination would not be practicable. In the light of these nebulae there is nothing to indicate, as in the case of the sun, a solid luminous globe behind the luminous photosphere, but the light from them is such as is characteristic of gaseity. When a star occurred in the spectrum was associated with the nebulae, a very feeble continuous spectrum was observed.

'On the Retardation of Electrical Signals on Land-Lines,' by Mr. FLEEMING JENKIN.—The retardation of electrical signals through submarine cables has been studied closely for some years; but on land-lines, owing to the difficulty of the experiment, and small influence of the retardation on the signals usually employed, little attention has been paid to the phenomenon. The invention of automatic instruments, such as Prof. Wheatstone's transmitting signals, which succeed one another with great rapidity, now renders the retardation an important element of calculation, even on the common aerial lines. The electric current is never received at a distant station at the very instant of its transmission; it arrives gradually, as represented in the annexed curve, in which the hori-



zontal ordinates represent the times after the circuit has been completed in terms of a quantity a ; while the vertical ordinates represent the relative strengths of the current at each moment: thus on any circuit the received current will have reached about 65 per cent. of its whole strength after a period of $6a$. The quantity a varies with the circumstances of each case, and is equal to $\frac{kc}{\pi^2} \log_e \left(\frac{4}{3} \right)$, where k = the resistance of the conducting wire per unit of length, in electrostatic absolute measure; c the capacity per unit of length in the same measure; and l the total length of the wire: k is known for all the ordinary metals, but c has hitherto been undetermined; and the object of the paper was to deduce the value of c , from some experiments made by M. Guillemin, and fully detailed in the 'Annales de Physique et de Chimie' for 1860. These experiments gave with considerable accuracy the form of the curve for various lengths; but the experimenter had not applied his results so as to give the constants required for the mathematical theory. After describing the method employed by M. Guillemin with high commendation, Mr. Jenkin gave the results of his calculations. The electrostatic capacity per foot of the common No. 8

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wire in the lines used by M. Guillemin must have been from 0.15 to 0.22 in British absolute electrostatic measure (feet, grains, seconds). This number is nearly three times that given by pure theory for a wire, stretched horizontally, without supports, at a uniform height of ten feet from the ground; a discrepancy probably to be accounted for by the induction occurring at each post. The form of the curve was also modified by imperfect insulation. The retardation due to this static charge—the capacity for which is thus determined—not only delays the signals, but causes confusion and utter illegibility if they succeed each other too rapidly. A limit is thus put to the performance of signalling instruments; and calculations made with the above value of c show that we must not expect to transmit by the common Morse instrument more than about twenty words per minute between stations 1,300 miles apart; that the performance of Prof. Wheatstone's beautiful automatic transmitter may be limited to speeds below 120 words per minute when 530 miles are exceeded; and that the Chevalier Bonelli would have to diminish his speed of 400 words per minute (with five wires), even on considerably shorter circuits. It must be remembered that larger wires, fewer posts, and a better form of insulator, may considerably extend these limits.

'On an Extensive Lunar Plain near the Montes Hercynii, which it is proposed to name Otto Struve,' by Dr. LEE. The large plain in the north-east quadrant of the moon, formerly designated by the Hanoverian astronomer Schröter 'Lichtenberg,' is situated between two mountain chains, to the easternmost of which the German selenographers, Beer and Mädler, appropriated the term 'Montes Hercynii,' at the same time transferring the name 'Lichtenberg' to a crater some little distance from this plain. Dr. Lee illustrated his description of the plain and its surrounding mountains by copies of the four delineations of the plain, at present all that are in existence: one by Schröter, made in the year 1792; the portion of Beer and Mädler's map of this region; a fine drawing of the northern part of the plain by Lord Rosse; and an unpublished drawing by Mr. Birt, executed during the present year. In these drawings Dr. Lee pointed out the features that were common to them, especially a large crater on the north part of the west wall, which was very conspicuous in them all. There were also craters quite conspicuous in Schröter's, Lord Rosse's, and Mr. Birt's drawings, which were not apparent in Beer's and Mädler's. After alluding to the confusion likely to arise from the changes in the names before mentioned, Dr. Lee suggested that in future this large plain should be denominated 'Otto Struve,' as commemorative of the extensive astronomical labours of the astronomer of Pulkova.

'On Two of the Conditions of the Resolvability of a Ternary Cubic Form into Linear Factors,' by Mr. J. J. WALKER.—Referring to the forthcoming number of the *Quarterly Journal of Mathematics* for a full account of the results he had arrived at in connexion with the problem of the resolution of quantities into factors, the author drew attention briefly to the three conditions in the above case, and then showed (by comparing a few formulæ) how two of these results were verified by certain properties of the 'Hessian' of the ternary cubic form, demonstrated by Prof. Cayley in Vol. I. of the *Cambridge and Dublin Mathematical Journal*. Remarkable on the connexion of this subject with other parts of analysis, the author assigned this as the reason which had induced him to invite the attention of the Section to it at the Newcastle and present Meetings.

The President remarked, that the subject was one of much interest to mathematicians, and had not been so much overlooked by them as found to be attended with such difficulties as had hitherto prevented any satisfactory progress being made in it.

'Report of the Committee on the Transmutation of Spectral Rays.'—At the Meeting of the British Association last year, in conformity with a resolution of this Section, the Assistant General Secretary and Mr. Akin were appointed a Committee to carry out certain experiments proposed by the

last-named gentleman in a paper read at Newcastle. In the present interim Report, Mr. Akin regretted that, through the scarcity of clear sunshine during the past summer at Oxford, and the circumstance of Mr. Griffith being unable to give his time to the work when favourable weather occurred, the experiments had not been completed. This was the more to be regretted as the methods and apparatus devised for the purpose appeared, from preliminary trials, competent to effect the proposed object, and as preparations for the more decisive experiments were in a very forward state.

'Report on Thermo-Electrical Phenomena.'—An Interim Report, requesting further time, was read by Mr. F. JENKIN.

SECTION B.—CHEMICAL SCIENCE.

TUESDAY.

'On a Curious Example of Etherification,' by Prof. WANKLYN.

'An Account of some Experiments on the Rate of Chemical Change,' by Mr. A. V. HARCOURT.

'On the Action of Hydrogen upon Organic Polycyanides,' by Mr. T. FAIRLEY.

'An Account of Apparatus and Processes for the Chemical and Photometrical Testing of Illuminating Gas,' by Prof. W. B. ROGERS.—The instruments and methods described in this communication are those adopted in the gas inspection lately organized by Prof. Rogers for the State of Massachusetts; comprising the measurement as well as testing of gas. Connected with the former of these objects, an account was given of the adjustments of the standard measure for gauging gasholders,—of a universal clamp for meter-connections,—and of an appendage combining a delicate thermometer and pressure-gauge for the inlet and outlet of the meter, and by which the rate of delivery is accurately adjusted. For chemical testing, the eudiometer, consisting of a graduated tube, with cylindrical enlargement, is permanently inclosed in a wider tube full of water, which maintains the temperature nearly uniform. The mouth of the graduated tube is furnished with a hollow ground stopper, for holding the several liquid absorbents used in the successive experiments. With this apparatus it is easy to determine the per-centage of carbonic acid, of illuminating hydrocarbons, of oxygen, and of carbonic oxide; after which the hydrogen and light carburetted hydrogen are ascertained by explosion, by means of an instrument consisting mainly of two glass tubes, united below by a long loop of rubber-tube, being a modification of Frankland's apparatus. For determining the sulphur, an improved arrangement is used, in which the stream of water supplying the Liebig's condenser is made to convey a stream of air, mingled with ammonia, into the condensing tube some inches above the flame of the burning gas. To secure a larger and more constant unit of illumination than the candle commonly used, a lamp burning kerosene, with a flat wick, is employed, in which, by means of a bridge of platinum wire, the flame may be maintained of constant size, and giving a light equal to about seven candles. This is supported on a balance of peculiar construction, giving the consumption during the experiment. Prof. Rogers had found that even the small amount of carbonic acid which in some gas-works is allowed to remain in the gas produces a sensible reduction of the light. This effect, varying with the strength of the illuminating gas, was found to range from 3 to nearly 5 per cent. of the illuminating power for each per cent. of the impurity: 58 per cent. of carbonic acid, although it did not prevent combustion, made the flame so dim as to be without effect on the photometer.

'Description of a Chemical Photometer for Meteorological Observation,' by Prof. ROSCOE.

'Contributions towards the Foundation of Quantitative Photography,' by Prof. ROSCOE.

'On Useful Applications of Slag from Iron Smelting,' by Dr. PAUL.

'On Isomorphism,' by Dr. WILLIAMSON.

WEDNESDAY.

'Memorandum on Ozone,' by Dr. G. KEMP.

'On some Probable New Sources of Thallium,' by Mr. W. SCOTT.

Prof. W. B. ROGERS exhibited the Inventions

of Mr. Cornelius, of Philadelphia, for Lighting Gas-Burners by Electricity.

'On the Production of Cold by the Expansion of Air,' by Mr. A. C. KIRK.

'Some Observations on the Constitution of the Atmosphere,' by Dr. S. MOSSMAN.

'Account of the Mode adopted at the Bradford Union for the Utilization of Sewage,' by Mr. W. GEE.

'On the Disposal of Town Refuse,' by Dr. PAUL.

'On Réaumur's Porcelain,' by Mr. A. NOBLE.

'Description of a Cheap Form of Automatic Regulator for the Electric Light,' by Mr. S. HIGHLEY.

SECTION C.—GEOLOGY.

TUESDAY.

'Preliminary Report of the Committee on the Distribution of the Organic Remains of the North Staffordshire Coalfield.'

'On Organic Remains in Laurentian Rocks in Canada,' by Sir W. LOGAN, Dr. DAWSON, and Dr. S. HUNT.

'Notice of Carnassial and Canine Teeth from the Mendip Cave, which probably belong to *Felis antiqua*,' by Mr. W. A. SANFORD.

'On Fossil and Human Remains of the Gibraltar Cave,' by Dr. FALCONER.

'On the Distribution of Granite Blocks from Wasdale Crag,' by Prof. PHILLIPS.

'On the Excavation of Valleys near Kirkby Lonsdale,' by Prof. PHILLIPS.

'On a Peculiar Fossil found in the Mesozoic Sandstone of the Connecticut Valley,' by Prof. W. B. ROGERS.

SECTION D.—ZOOLOGY AND BOTANY.

TUESDAY.

Extract of a Letter from Dr. BAIKIE, relative to *Magnatus Vogeli*.

'On Euphorbiaceæ,' by Dr. MÜLLER.

Dr. E. P. WRIGHT exhibited Prof. T. Huxley's and Mr. Hawkins's 'Comparative Osteology.'

Dr. J. E. GRAY exhibited Von Beneden's Work 'On the Marine Leeches of the Coast of Brest.'

'On the Pedicellariæ of the Echinodermata,' by Dr. HERAPATH.

'On a Human Skull and the Bones of Animals found with Pottery in a Kjökkenmødding, on the Coast of Cornwall,' by Mr. C. S. BATE.

'On an Ancient Cornish Barrow,' by Mr. C. S. BATE.

'Shetland Dredging Report: on the Echinodermata of the Shetland Sea,' by the Rev. A. M. NORMAN.

'Report of the Dredging Operations on the Coasts of Northumberland and Durham,' by Mr. G. S. BRADY.

'Notice of some Rare Scotch Plants and their Localities,' by Prof. BALFOUR.

'On *Datura Stramonium* and *D. Tatula*,' by Mr. J. BUCKMAN.

'Observations on the Spinnerets of Spiders,' by Mr. R. BECK.

'On the Mollusca of Bath, and an account of a Parasite found in *Anadon Cygneæ*,' by Mr. J. E. DANIELL.

'Notice of a new Entomostraccon from Exmouth,' by Dr. T. WRIGHT.

'On the Testimony of Local Phenomena to the Permanence of Type,' by Dr. B. BEDDOE.

'On the Old Welsh Mistletoe Cure for St. Vitus's Dance,' by Mr. M. MOGGERIDGE.

'On Balata and other Gums regarded as a Substitute for Gutta Percha,' by Dr. R. RIDDELL.—The paper spoke of the gum as a very excellent substitute for, and quite equal to, the adulterated or re-boiled gutta percha from Singapore. They were indebted to Dr. Van Holst, of Amsterdam, Berbice, for bringing this gum first into notice in 1860. It abounded in the forests of British Guiana, and was especially prolific at the time of the full moon. On the day of the full moon the yield of gum was from 6 to 10 times greater than at other times. After the tree had been tapped, it could be tapped again every two months. The wood was used for building purposes and for furniture, and he was informed the tree was not injured by being tapped. A tree yielding a gum similar in every respect was discovered to

exist, by Gen. Cullen and Col. Cotton, in 1853, growing along the whole line of the Western Ghats on the Malabar coast, Southern India, from lat. $8^{\circ} 30'$ to lat. $10^{\circ} 30'$ at an elevation of from 2,500 to 3,000 feet above the sea. The climate of the country where the Bullet-tree is found in Berbice is unhealthy; but however that may be, probably some of the free slaves of America might be induced to settle there and become traders.

The Rev. A. M. NORMAN, alluding to the fact mentioned by Dr. Riddell, of the sap flowing more freely at the time of the full moon, said, some people were inclined to laugh at such statements, but there could be no doubt that the moon had an important influence on the vegetable world.—Dr. RIDDELL said: It was well known to the natives of India, that bamboo cut at the full moon was much more subject to the attacks of insects, rotted and decayed sooner than when cut during the dark nights. Specimens of the gum in a liquid state, also in a large block, and rolled, were exhibited, appearing freely coloured, but not very agreeable in smell. Other specimens were shown in a manufactured state, as vulcanized, hard and soft, and in a state of ebonite. Since the Exhibition, a patent has been taken out for working it, particularly for the insulation of electric wires, combined with caoutchouc and various other substances.

‘On the Food of Birds,’ by Mr. C. O. GROOM.

SUB-SECTION D.—PHYSIOLOGY.

TUESDAY.

Dr. I. H. BENNETT exhibited a New Sphygmograph, by M. Marey.

‘Report on the Nitrate of Amyle,’ by Dr. B. W. RICHARDSON.

‘On Cell Theories,’ by Mr. J. T. DICKSON.

‘Some Observations on the Horse Chestnut: its Composition and Uses,’ by Dr. J. DAVY.

‘On Vegetables and Fruit as a Source of Entozoa,’ by Dr. T. S. COBBOLD.

‘On Water as a Source of Entozoa,’ by Dr. T. S. COBBOLD.

‘On the Hour of Death in Acute and Chronic Disease,’ by Mr. A. HAVILAND.

‘On the Physiological Effect of the Vacuum Apparatus,’ by Dr. T. JUNOD.

‘On the Physiological Effects of Tobacco,’ by Dr. B. W. RICHARDSON.—The author began by saying that, without being a devotee to tobacco, he had for many years often smoked. He did not come before the Section biased in any degree, as his remarks would prove; he came simply as a man of science, who had tried to comprehend the facts of the whole question, and he should put these facts forward clearly, fairly, and free from technicalities. *Products of the Combustion of Tobacco.*—Some recent researches on this subject had led the author to the fact, that these products are much more complex than had been supposed. He described an apparatus which was, in fact, an automaton smoker, by which he had been enabled to have pipes of various kinds of tobacco and cigars smoked by means of a bellows; the smoke which, in the case of a man, would enter the mouth, being all caught and subjected to analysis. The results of these inquiries had led him to the determination of the following bodies as products of the combustion of tobacco:—1. Water. 2. Free carbon. 3. Ammonia. 4. Carbonic acid. 5. An alkaloidal principle, called nicotine. 6. An empyreumatic substance. 7. A resinous bitter extract. *Physical Properties of the Component Parts.*—The water is in the form of vapour; the carbon is in the form of minute particles, suspended in the water vapour, and giving to the eddies of smoke their blue colour; the ammonia is in the form of gas combined with carbonic acid; the carbonic acid gas is partly free and partly in combination with ammonia. The nicotine is a non-volatile body, an alkaloid which remains in the pipe; the empyreumatic substance is a volatile body, having an ammoniacal nature, but the exact composition of which is as yet unknown; it is this that gives to the smoke its peculiar odour; it adheres very powerfully to woolen materials, and in the concentrated form is so obnoxious as almost to be intolerable. The bitter extract is a resinous substance, of dark colour, and of

intensely bitter taste. It is, probably, a compound body, having an alkaloid as its base. It is not volatile, and only leaves the pipe by being carried along the stem in the fluid form. *Variations in different kinds of Tobacco.*—The greatest variations exist in various kinds of tobacco. Simple tobacco that has not undergone fermentation yields very little free carbon, much ammonia, much carbonic acid, little water, none, or the smallest possible trace of nicotine, a very small quantity of empyreumatic vapour, and an equally small quantity of bitter extract. Latakia tobacco yields these same products only. Bristol Bird-eye yields large quantities of ammonia and very little nicotine. Turkish yields much ammonia. Shag tobacco yields all the products in abundance, and the same may be said of pure Havana cigars. Cavendish varies considerably; some specimens which are quickly dried are nearly as simple as Latakia; other specimens which are moist, yield all the products in great abundance. Pigtail yields every product most abundantly. The little Swiss cigars yield enormous quantities of ammonia, and Manillas yield very little. *Physiological Effects of the compounds named above.*—The water vapour is innocuous; the carbon settles on the mucous membrane, and irritates the throat. The carbonic acid is a narcotic, if it be received into the lungs; the ammonia causes dryness and biting of the mucous membrane of the throat, and increases the flow of saliva. Absorbed into the blood it renders that fluid too thin, causing irregularity of the blood corpuscles; it also causes, when absorbed in large quantities, suppression of the biliary secretion and yellowness of skin; it quickens and then reduces the action of the heart, and, in young smokers, it produces nausea. The empyreumatic substance seems to be almost negative in its effects, but it gives to the tobacco smoke its peculiar taste, and it is this substance that makes the breath of confirmed smokers so unpleasant. Nicotine is scarcely ever imbibed by the cleanly smoker; it affects those only who smoke cigars, by holding the cigar in the mouth, and those who smoke dirty pipes saturated with oily matter. Its effects when absorbed are very injurious; it causes palpitation, tremor, and irregular action of the heart; tremor and unsteadiness of the muscles generally, and great prostration. It does not, however, produce nausea or vomiting. The bitter extract is the cause of vomiting and nausea when it is absorbed; both it and the nicotine are always received into the mouth in solution, and produce their effects either by direct absorption from the mouth, or by being imperceptibly swallowed and taken into the stomach. *Mode of Smoking.*—The greatest difference arises from the manner of smoking. Those who use clean long pipes of clay feel only the effects of the gaseous bodies and the free carbon. Wooden pipes and pipes with glass stems are injurious. Cigars, smoked to the end, are the most injurious of all. To be safe, a cigar ought to be cast aside as soon as it is half smoked; and every cigar ought to be smoked from a porous tube. Cigars, indeed, are more injurious than any form of pipe; and the best pipe is unquestionably what is commonly called a “churchwarden” or “long clay.” After the clay pipe, the meerschauim is next wholesome. A pipe with a meerschauim bowl, an amber mouth-piece, and a clay stem, easily removable or changeable for a halfpenny, would be the beautiful of a healthy pipe. All attempts to construct pipes so as to condense the oil have failed. To be effective they must be very large and inconvenient. It is of no slight importance, if a man must smoke, for him to be careful of the manner in which it is done. A man may, by practice, become habituated to a short foul pipe, but he never fails to suffer from his success in the end, nor, unless the habit of actual stupefaction be acquired, is any pleasurable advantage derived. What may be called the soothing influence of tobacco is as well brought about by a clean porous pipe, or well-made cigarette, as by any more violent and dangerous system, while the harm that is inflicted is of an evanescent character. ‘On the Size of the Blood Corpuscles in relation to the Size of the Animal,’ by Dr. E. CRISP.

WEDNESDAY.

‘On the Physiological Aspect of the Sewerage Question,’ by Dr. I. H. BENNETT.

SECTION E.—GEOGRAPHY AND ETHNOLOGY.

MONDAY.

‘On the Progress of Civilization in Northern Celebes,’ by Mr. A. R. WALLACE.—The northern peninsula of Celebes is the only part of that island which is of volcanic structure. A considerable portion of it is elevated 2,500 feet above the sea, forming the beautiful plateau of Tondano, in the centre of which is a lake about 20 miles in circumference. Scattered about this plateau are volcanic peaks and ridges 6,000 or 7,000 feet high. A fertile soil clothes even the mountain slopes of all this region, and, assisted by the abundant equatorial rains and a mild and uniform temperature, supports a vegetation of great luxuriance and beauty. The Dutch have now had possession of this country for nearly two hundred years, having taken it from the Portuguese in 1677. The inhabitants, more particularly on the central plateau, differ from those of the rest of Celebes. They often approach to the fair complexion of the European, while they retain the straight black hair and general physiognomy of the Malay races. In character they are gentle and submissive, industrious and easily educated. Up to a very recent period they were complete savages, and were almost always at war with each other. They built their huts upon lofty posts to guard against attacks, and decorated them with the heads of their slain enemies. Their clothing was strips of bark, and their religion was a degrading demon-worship. From this state of barbarism they have been raised to comparative civilization in a short time by the Dutch Government. The country is now becoming a garden worthy of its sweet native name, “Minahassa.” The villages are almost all like model villages and the cottages like those one sees upon the stage. The streets are bordered with trimmed turf and fenced with hedges of roses in perpetual bloom. Near every village are the most beautifully cultivated and productive coffee plantations, while rice-fields and fruit and vegetable grounds supply abundance of food to the inhabitants. In every village there is a schoolhouse, and in the larger ones a church also. The people are all neatly dressed, and the native chiefs and schoolmasters would pass muster among respectable people in England. On arriving at one of these chiefs’ houses, in a principal village, the writer was received by a gentleman in a suit of black; boys nicely dressed and with smooth-combed hair brought water and napkins for him to wash, and he was furnished with a dinner comprising every European comfort, finger-glasses, clean napkins, claret and beer, along with a variety of well-cooked native dishes. The house was handsome and lofty, the chairs and tables were of fine native woods, and though made by self-taught natives were of superior workmanship to any but the very best we get at home; and as he sat in the verandah taking coffee his eye was gratified by the sight of beautiful flowers, which, in this delightful climate, are perpetually renewed. This great change is the result of the introduction of the coffee-plant under government superintendence, and of the labours of Dutch Protestant missionaries. The native chiefs were induced to further the views of the Government by the promise of a percentage on the coffee produce of their district, and the whole system is carried out by them, under the advice and support of the inspectors and Dutch residents. Each family in a village works in the plantations; an account is kept of the number of days’ labour each gives, and when the produce is sent to the government warehouses, and paid for at the fixed price agreed upon on the formation of the plantations, the amount is divided proportionately among the inhabitants. The chief and the other head men of the village decide upon how many days a week it is necessary to work at different times of the year, and the villagers are called to labour at fixed hours by beat of gong. This community of labour is a common feature among people in the first stages of civilization, and rarely is any other pressure than public opinion required to insure regularity. Habits of industry have thus been fostered, and a considerable sum of money is realized annually by each family. Under the advice and example of the missionaries and government inspectors, the people build neat houses and

adopt European clothing and habits. Their children go to school, and the Malay language spreads rapidly, and is superseding the numerous native dialects, and general morality has undergone a vast improvement. No one who sees these people, and inquires as to their former condition, can avoid the conclusion that they are both morally and physically far superior to what they were. But it is said this change has been brought about by "monopoly" and "despotism," and therefore cannot be right. The author believed, however, that the relation of a civilized to an uncivilized race over whom it rules, is exactly analogous to that of parent to child, or of adults to infants, and that a certain amount of despotic rule and guidance is as essential in the one case as it is in the other. The only question is as to the manner in which the "paternal despotism" shall be carried out, and he thinks that the system of upholding and regulating the power of the native chiefs, whom the people are already accustomed to obey, of introducing systematic cultivation under government superintendence, and favouring the exertions of missionaries and native teachers, is a far better plan than throwing open a country to the competition of a low class of European traders and cultivators, which inevitably leads to the degradation of the natives, and a conflict of interests, inducing mutual animosity between the two races. The system of the Dutch, as carried out here and in Java, he considers as most excellent, and especially valuable as a step in the education of an uncivilized race; and he cannot but contrast it with the deplorable results of the free competition of antagonistic races in New Zealand, which can only end in the extermination of a people which it seems probable would, under more favourable conditions, have been capable of improvement and civilization.

'On the Meenas, a Wild Tribe of Central India,' by Lieut.-Col. SHOWERS.—The ethnological description of the tribe was prefaced by some observations on aborigines generally, and introducing the different modes in which contact with the dominant race had been found to modify their character and condition, and taking it as a test of the character of the rule of the dominant races respectively, the author referred to several examples of the successful reclaiming of wild tribes in India by the enrolment of them into military and police corps, as affording a vantage ground of comparison, in favour of the government of the late rulers of India, against that of any other government. The detailed account of the particular tribe described, represents a remarkable race, which, having retreated, centuries ago, to a strong hilly tract at the quadruple boundary of four independent native states, had maintained itself in a state of lawless independence, by taking advantage of the jealousies of the different states concerned, and subsisting by plunder as a profession. Emboldened at length by long impunity, the tribe seems to have had the audacity to make a series of inroads into the neighbouring British district, attacking even walled towns, and carrying off the plunder and some of the inhabitants to their fastnesses. These outrages are stated as the cause of our author having to take the Meenas in hand; and in referring to the present tranquillity of that once immemorably disturbed district, and the changed behaviour of the tribe, by the operation of the measures adopted on that occasion, it is satisfactory to learn that all was effected without a shot being fired, affording as it does a pleasing contrast to the deplorable contests with savage tribes going on at the present day in other parts of the world. An armed demonstration sufficed to introduce the administrative measures which have been attended with such happy results.

Sir Henry RAWLINSON observed, that the Meenas were a remarkable race. It was not known whether they were of Pre-Aryan descent, or a Turanian tribe which had migrated into India since the Aryan conquest of the country. They are mentioned in the Periplus of Hanno as inhabiting Scinde, then called Indo-Scythia.

'A Narrative of Journeys in the South Slavonic Countries of Austria and Turkey in Europe,' by Miss M. MACKENZIE.

'Account of a Journey to Xiangmai and Maulmein,' by Sir R. SCHOMBURGK.

'On the Ethnology of Cambodia,' by Dr. A. BASTIAN.

'On the supposed Infecundity of Human Hybrids or Crosses,' by Mr. J. CRAWFURD.

'On some Wild Tribes, supposed to be Aborigines of Southern India,' by Dr. SHORT.—The first tribe described were the Yenadis, of the island of Srihurrecottah, on the Coromandel coast, in 13° 26' to 13° 39' N. lat. They speak a corrupted dialect of Telugu, and have no history of their race. Their type of features is Mongolian, and they have very little beard, and no whiskers: the men are generally dark-coloured, but the women vary from dark to tawny. Polygamy is practised, and the widows remain single for twelve months, after which, if young, they re-marry. With the exception of the flesh of the cow, they are omnivorous, and they seem to have no caste prejudices, although they will not mix socially with the neighbouring tribes. The head man amongst them is called Yajaman, and the office appears hereditary; he lives in a well-built thatched house, with four wives, and acts as judge in cases of disobedience, seated in a place appointed for such occasions, and investigates the subjects of complaint, with the assistance of a few of the other leading men. Only a few of them practise agriculture. There are no villages; three, four, or sometimes six, is the greatest number of huts grouped together, and frequently they all belong to one man. The huts are in the shape of reversed tea-cups, minus the rim, and are built of bamboos and wood, tied together by means of lianas or palm-ya fibre; they are about six feet in height, and are movable from place to place. The entrance is the only opening, and it is so low that the author had to lie flat on the sand and wriggle himself in. They hunt with the bow, and their arrows are tipped with iron. *Chuncha Davatoo*, a rude wooden idol, is their household deity. They have no idea of a future state. The Government has lately opened a school for the Yenadi children; but, although they can read, their intelligence is not very bright, for they could not tell the author whether Bombay was the name of a country or an animal. Their teaching seemed parrot-like; they learned by rote things which they did not appear to understand.—The next tribe, the Vilees, are to be met with on the outskirts of almost every large village in Southern India. Like the Yenadis, they know nothing of their origin. The Mongolian type is strongly marked in both male and female, and the men have very scanty beards. They are not divided into castes. Their villages never exceed a dozen huts, and these are even smaller in size than those of the Yenadis, and are built of palm-leaves, grass, sticks, &c. In some of their villages, the Mandioca plant (*Jatropha Manihot*) is cultivated, in small patches. Formerly, the Vilees did not mix with the people, but lived entirely in the jungles, leading a rude, savage life. Their occupation is now that of collecting herbs and medicinal drugs, which they sell to the more civilized inhabitants.—The Iroolers reside, for the most part, in the outskirts of the village of Nagalpooram, at the foot of the Ramagherry Hills. They resemble the Vilees, and live in huts similar to those of that tribe; but they are more robust and more active in their habits than either the Vilees or Yenadis. The author obtained nine skulls of Yenadis of Srihurrecottah—two belonging to youths and seven to adults. They were somewhat small and light; the malar bones were rather prominent in some, and the squamous suture was arched and uniform. The only brain dissected (that of an Irooler) weighed 2 lb. 10 oz.

TUESDAY.

'Ascent of the Congo River as far as the Main Rapids,' by Capt. R. F. BURTON.—This was a narrative of a journey undertaken by the author, from Fernando Po, in July, 1863, for purposes of health and gathering statistical and geographical information. Arrived at the head of the Delta, he found a tract of elevated land, and a salubrious climate. The most interesting item of information gleaned with regard to the geography of the region was, that the upper course of the Congo formed two branches; one of which had its source in a lake to the north-east, and the other flowed from the south. The former lay in the direct route which

M. Du Chailu was now following, from the Gaboon towards the interior, and it was probable it would be visited by that explorer. The southern branch was no other than the Congo, which Dr. Livingstone crossed on his journey from St. Paulo de Loanda to Mozambique, without being aware of its connexion with the Congo.

In the discussion which followed the reading of this paper, Mr. CRAWFURD maintained the superiority of the west coast of Tropical Africa to the east coast. This was owing to its producing palm oil, of which 1,300,000 gallons were exported in 1863. Palm oil was the great civilizer of Africa, and was more efficacious in suppressing the trade in slaves than the British squadron. The east coast was deficient in oil-producing palm-trees.—Dr. KIRK said that Dr. Livingstone and himself found a palm-tree which did not differ, except in size, from the *Elais Guineensis* of West Africa, growing abundantly on the shores of Lake Nyassa, near the east coast. He believed that the cultivation of the trade in the oil of this palm would be a great blessing to the suffering nations of this populous region. It was true that the district was nearly 300 miles distant from the sea coast, but there was water navigation nearly the whole way. The Mozambique country was rich also in other valuable oils. The cotton was undoubtedly of good quality; but to make this and the oils of the country available, there must be free navigation of the Zambesi, and an improvement in the government of the country.

'Account of his Journey across Australia,' by Mr. MACDOUGALL STUART.—This was a short and spirited narrative of the author's journey across Australia, from Adelaide to Van Diemen's Gulf, on the northern coast.

Mr. STUART, in answer to questions put by Mr. JOHN LUBBOCK, explained.—1. That the common belief as to the mode of throwing the boomerang by the natives of Australia was an incorrect one; the boomerang is always hurled straight at the object aimed at, and it did not recoil from the direction in which it was thrown. 2. That the use of the bow was unknown to the natives of Australia. 3. That the native shield is made of the bark of a tree, and is held in the hand, not strapped to the arm. 4. That fire was obtained by the natives of the southern part of the continent by the friction of two pieces of wood over a bunch of dry grass; but that in the north this mode is unknown, fire-brands being constantly carried about and renewed; and if, by any accident, they become extinguished, a journey of great length has to be undertaken in order to obtain fire from other natives. Lastly, that the inhabitants of the northern part of the continent differed greatly in appearance from those of the south, having more of a Malay cast.

'Journey along the West Coast of Middle Island, New Zealand,' by Mr. A. WALKER.

'Notes on Kurdistan,' by Mr. J. G. TAYLOR.

'On a Recent Earthquake at St. Helena,' by Sir C. ELLIOT.

'On the Jostedal Bræ, a Glacial System in Southern Norway,' by Mr. C. M. DOUGHTY.

'On the Fixity of the Types of Man,' by the Rev. T. FARREAR.—As far as we can go back, the races of man, under all zones, appear to have maintained an unalterable fixity. On the oldest Egyptian monuments we find Jews, Arabs, Negroes, Egyptians, Assyrians and Europeans depicted with a fidelity as to colour and feature hardly to be surpassed by a modern artist. It might be objected that this fixity was due to the surrounding conditions having remained unaltered. But a glance at the map shows this objection to be invalid; for the eastern region of Asia, from 70° N. lat. to the Equator, offers every variety of temperature, yet is peopled by a single type, the Mongolian. By the side of the fair Circassian we find brown Calmucks; short, dark Lapps live side by side with tall, fair Finns. The colour of the American Indian depends very little on geographical position. In short, colour is distributed over the globe in patches, not in zones. Europeans transplanted from the temperate to the torrid zone do not, even in the course of generations, undergo any considerable modification of type. This may be seen in the Dutch, who have lived in South Africa for 300 years, and in the descendants of the Spaniards

and Portuguese in South America; also in the negroes transplanted to America. Independently of this, we find races widely differing from each other, but dwelling side by side, who, so far as we know, have, from time immemorial, been affected by the same climate: such is the case with the Bosjesmen and the Kaffirs, the Fuegians and the Patagonians, the Parsees and the Hindoos. This fixity of type applies to habits as well as to corporeal features. The life of the Ishmaelite of to-day might be described in the identical terms applied to his first ancestor; and the Mongol has the same habits as in the days of *Æschylus* and *Herodotus*, or, perhaps, thousands of years before. It may be objected that a period of a few centuries is little or nothing in ethnological matters. It is, at any rate, everything to those who, without miraculous interference, of which nothing is recorded, have not more than that period between the Deluge and the date of the oldest Egyptian monument in which to account for the appearance of, for instance, the full-grown, well-marked *Nigritian* type. It remains for every one who is convinced of these facts to draw from them such inferences as appear to him most truthful and logical.

An animated discussion followed the reading of this paper, in which the following gentlemen took part:—*MR. RUSSELL*, *MR. VIVIAN*, *SIR RODERICK MURCHISON*, *MR. CRAWFORD*, *CAPT. JENKINS*, *MR. FELLOWS*, *SIR HENRY RAWLINSON*, *MR. JOHN LUBBOCK*, and *DR. BEDDOE*.—*MR. RUSSELL* believed that the fixity of the type of races during the historical period was only one of the numerous proofs of the great antiquity of man. The results of various branches of inquiry—geological, traditional and ethnological—all pointed one way. He maintained that some amount of modification was known to have taken place in the descendants of one and the same race,—the European and Indian branches of the Aryan race, for example; he therefore concluded that, as two lines not exactly parallel will eventually meet if traced out, so the various races and sections of races of man must be concluded, from this known example of divergence, to have had a common origin, however remote in time that origin may have been.

'On the Poisoned Arrows of Savage Man,' by *PROF. HARLEY*.—A large collection of the missile weapons of savage man shows various gradations in the inventive faculty of races. First, there is the simple pointed stick, fixed in the end of the reed-shaft of the arrow, as seen in the weapons of the Solomon Islanders. Experience would teach savages the inefficiency of this kind of arrow, for on the wounded animal taking flight, the weapon would drop from its sides. Thus we see other tribes cut notches in the stick; and others, again, improve on this by fixing iron barbs in the arrow-head to retain it in the wound: or the same gradation is seen in the weapons of one and the same tribe. Now, a great improvement on all these is found in the arrows of the nations of Eastern Africa, which have an iron head to the shaft, as well as barbs below it. But it was a great step in advance to invent a poison where-with to anoint the point of the missile, so as to insure speedy death to the wounded animal. Poisoned arrows are found amongst the natives of the Malay Archipelago, Northern India, Africa, and South America; but many weapons which have been sent, by travellers and others, to the author as poisoned, have turned out, on examination, not to be so, but to have been smeared with paint for ornament or conservation. The desideratum in an effective poisoned missile was to so contrive it as to enable it to remain in the wound sufficiently long to make the action of the poison certain. Now, an iron, or even a smooth wooden point or blade, would not answer this end. The savages of the banks of the Zambesi, in Africa, therefore showed considerable ingenuity in winding a cotton thread round the arrow-head, and smearing this with the fatal juice. But the Indians of the northern parts of South America have gone beyond this, and have invented the most ingenious weapon yet known amongst uncivilized nations. Those who have read *Mr. Bates's 'Naturalist on the Amazons'* must have been struck by the cleverness shown by the Indians in the invention of the arrow

for shooting turtles, described in that work. This is a reed with a sharp point fixed in a hole at the end, and attached by a long thread to the shaft, around which it is wound. The arrow-head pierces the shell of the turtle, the concussion shakes off the shaft, which remains floating on the water; so that when the Indian paddles up to the spot he is enabled not only to find the place where the turtle has dived, but to haul it into the canoe by means of the thread. The *Macushi* Indians of British Guiana have applied this principle to the poisoned arrow. A fine point made of the horny mid-rib of a palm-leaf is fixed into the tip of the shaft, and this point is the part which receives the poison. An Indian on going to the chase takes a quiver full of these points—they are, in fact, his shot; the point alone remains in the wound of the animal he shoots, and its death is thereby rendered almost certain. Moreover, if by some mischance his booty escapes him the Indian does not lose the arrow, which takes him some time to manufacture, and of which he can only carry with him a limited supply. The author has carefully analyzed and experimented on all the arrow poisons which he had been able to obtain, and the result was that there were only two distinct kinds of poison used by savage races; one is the *Woorali* of the northern parts of South America, and the other the poison of Africa and India, known in the latter country as the *Antia*. The action of these two poisons was diametrically opposite. The *Woorali* affected the muscular system, destroying its action before it affected the heart; whilst the African and Indian poison paralyzed first the heart, leaving the muscular system active for some short time after. The author then discussed the subject of the existence of nearly identical weapons (such as the blow-gun, through which short poisoned arrows are propelled by the breath) amongst tribes of savages widely separated from each other,—the natives of Borneo, the tribes of the Himalayan mountains, and the Indians of the northern parts of South America. He said there were three modes of accounting for this coincidence:—1. They may have been invented by primitive men before the various races became segregated; 2. The distant tribes may have communicated with each other since their separation; 3. Or the invention may have been independent, analogous conditions having given rise to the same ideas. The balance of probability, he thought, inclined towards the second of these explanations.

SECTION F.—ECONOMIC SCIENCE AND STATISTICS.

TUESDAY.

'Report on Scientific Evidence in Courts of Judicature,' by *MR. T. WEBSTER* and *MR. J. F. BATEMAN*.

'Sanitary Statistics of Cheltenham,' by *DR. WILSON*.

'On the Locality of the Various Religious Bodies in Ireland,' by the *REV. DR. HUME*.

'On the Quantity and Value of Grain imported into the United Kingdom since the Repeal of the Corn Laws,' by *MR. F. PURDY*.—The writer observed that the benefits which the country had already derived from free trade were beyond the most sanguine anticipations of those who had successfully striven to destroy the protective tariff of England. The Custom House returns disclose figures which, to those who are not very familiar with statistical and economical research, look like fabulous amounts. For example, in the four years ended with 1844—these were the last years of the celebrated and mischievous "sliding scale"—1,825,000 quarters was the average yearly quantity of wheat imported; the price of British wheat being, in those years, 64s. 4d., 57s. 3d., 50s. 1d., and 51s. 3d., taking the prices chronologically. But in the four years ended with 1863, the average imports were 6,970,000 quarters, at prices ranging between 44s. 9d. and 55s. 5d. The imports in quantity were, in the last four years, nearly fourfold what we obtained in 1841-44; at the same time the price was much lower. Under "grain" *Mr. Purdy* classed wheat, wheaten flour and meal, barley, oats, rye, maize, peas and beans, &c.; and it was shown, with regard to the value of these commodities, that the whole of the imports during the decade ended with 1863 amounted to

250,202,000*l.* Nearly all this vast quantity of grain and flour which this money value represents has been consumed in this kingdom; about 3,000,000*l.* worth only having been exported in the ten years. The annual average home consumption of foreign corn, flour, and meal for 1852-63 was 11,865,000 quarters, valued at 25,000,000*l.*, very nearly. Three periods of four years each were then taken to show the imports according to population. The average annual quantity per head in 1842-45 was 0.8 of a bushel; in 1852-55, 2.3 bushels; in 1860-63, 4.4 bushels. So that the quantity taken with reference to the population was precisely five and a half times greater in 1860-3 than it was eighteen years before. It was further shown that, as regards the different parts of the United Kingdom, they appeared to participate equally in the imports of grain, properly so called; but that of flour and meal Ireland received a much smaller quantity than either England or Scotland—*e.g.*, the following were shown to be the proportions in each division in 1861:—

	Bushels of grain per head.	Pounds of flour and meal.
England and Wales	3.9	28.6
Scotland	3.9	29.3
Ireland	3.9	3.6

The year of maximum imports was 1862, when 18,441,000 quarters of grain, meal, and flour of all sorts were received into the ports of the United Kingdom, valued at 37,772,000*l.* *Mr. McCulloch* had computed that, for human food and for the inferior animals, this country required 49,000,000 quarters of grain, flour, and meal annually. This estimate was framed five or six years ago. Very recently, *Mr. Caird* has computed the quantity of wheat required for the consumption of Great Britain at 18,700,000 quarters.

'On Crime in England and France,' by *MR. GUERRY*.

'On the Recommendations of the Public School Commissioners for the Distribution of School Time,' by *MR. J. HEYWOOD*.

'On the British Home and Colonial Empire in its Mutual Relations,' by *LIEUT.-COL. KENNEDY*.

'Health Statistics of the City of Paris,' by *MR. W. TITE, M.P.*

'Statistics of Crime in Australia,' by *MR. W. WESTGARTH*.

'On Brief Writing,' by *MR. I. PITMAN*.

'Notes on a Cotton Chart, showing the Effect of the Civil War in America on Cotton,' by *COL. GRANT, R.E.*

'Statistics of Live Stock,' by *MR. R. HERBERT*.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Wed. Horticultural.—Fruit and Vegetable Shows.
Meteorological, 7.—Council.

FINE ARTS

DUTCH PICTURES ON LOAN AT THE SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM.

LENDING, borrowing, displaying and keeping, are all functions of the great Art-establishment in the South Kensington district. *Mr. Walter, M.P.*, a gentleman of taste, possessing a choice collection of pictures, is about to rebuild his house, and, instead of sending his paintings and his furniture, with which in former days they would have been classed and valued, to be locked up in fireproof cases at *Tilbury's* or the *Pantechnicon*, has committed them to the authorities of the South Kensington Museum for public exhibition and critical examination under the most favourable circumstances. This liberal movement originated at *Marlborough House* about eight years ago, when *Mr. G. Field*, of *Ashurst Park, Kent*, deposited his pictures for the public gratification. The same principle led to one of the greatest attractions of London, the *Loan Museum* of 1862, at *South Kensington*; where very recently, during the rebuilding of the *Barber-Surgeons' Hall*, the wardens of the Company deposited their pictorial treasures, as in a former number we had occasion to mention. Many of the *Barber-Surgeons'* pictures still retained there are literally stowed away in a very bad light, especially the interesting portrait of the *Duchess of Richmond*, daughter of

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George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, in the character of St. Agnes with a Lamb. But no such complaint can be made of the position of Mr. Walter's pictures; they are all in an excellent light, thoroughly within "ken" of the spectator, and, in fact, occupy the rooms where the Mulready pictures were recently displayed. Many of Mr. Walter's paintings were leading features in the great Exhibition at Manchester, in 1857; and in this re-collection we shall note after each particular picture that we intend to describe the number that it held in the Catalogue of that Exhibition.

Mr. Walter here displays nearly his entire collection, and it affords consequently a fair and very satisfactory opportunity of estimating the judgment of the possessor. The Directors of the British Institution will find loan-collections of this nature seriously affect the popularity of their own Gallery. In the present case, where a whole collection is received, the Managers of the Museum are relieved from any special cares of selection, but the British Institution Directors will find it more and more necessary to beware of admitting unworthy pictures, and to guard against the jobbery of dealers and petty possessors which is already telling with injurious effect upon them.

The first and most striking picture belonging to Mr. Walter's collection is the large landscape, by Jacob Ruysdael, of Bentheim Castle (No. 708 of Manchester Exhibition), a subject which the painter several times repeated, but in no instance equal in effect to the present. The castle, situated on the frontiers of Holland and Hanover, crowns a lofty and rugged rock, at the foot of which is an abundance of rich green foliage, in which cottages lie partially concealed under shelter of the battlements, and limestone cliffs appear in various parts among the thickly-wooded sides. The heavy summer-clouds are painted with astonishing effect. The picture is signed and dated, "Rv. 1653." The eastern side of the castle sustained some damage from the bombardments of the French army under Davoust, and it narrowly escaped being blown up at the time of the French troops being obliged to evacuate it, but otherwise the general appearance of the castle remains much the same as when Ruysdael painted it. The picture formerly belonged to Mr. William Smith, M.P. for Norwich.

Two Cows and a Bull, a small square picture, by Paul Potter, painted on panel, and signed "Paulus Potter. f. 1647." is a celebrated masterpiece (No. 998 of the Manchester Exhibition). The animals are seen against a grey sky; two of them standing, and much foreshortened, the third lying down and seen sideways. The composition is simple, but natural in the extreme. The picture is, indeed, a marvellous production for a young man only twenty-two years old. It formerly belonged to the Braamcamp, Smeth van Alpen, and Watson Taylor collections.—An admirable "Dutch Garden Scene," displaying the bowling-alley with nine pins, a marble statue of Cupid, and the formal clipped trees and yew and box hedges belonging to a Dutch mansion, is one of the most brilliant and complete examples of Peter De Hooche conceivable (No. 953 of the Manchester Exhibition). The figures are small in proportion to the landscape, and the play of light is surprising. In this latter respect De Hooche has always enjoyed a celebrity. His genial sunlight may here be contrasted with the sultry glare or glow of sunset for which another painter, Both, was no less famous.—"The Muleteers," by Jan Both (719) is a fine landscape exhibiting a tangle of trees, rocks and bushes, with the intensely yellow sky of sunset immediately behind them. It is painted on canvas, and formerly belonged to Mrs. Howard, of Reading.

A large Landscape, by Hobbema, with a water-mill amid trees, and a piece of water in the foreground, dated 1667, is a rich example of the master. It passed from the collection of Lord Trevor, during whose possession Earlom engraved it, to that of Lady Hampden and subsequently lodged in the hands of Mr. Woodin. In 1861, it was exhibited at the British Institution and specially noted by the *Athenæum*. Several of Mr. Walter's choicest pictures were also seen in the Pall Mall Exhibition of last year.

A very excellent picture, called 'A Pic Nic,' by Gonzales Coques, a very rare master, deserves particular attention (1004). It is painted on wood, about 2 ft. 3 in. by 2 ft. 10 in., with extreme minuteness and vividness of colour. The figures compose a family group of eight persons, consisting of the father, mother, five children and a servant. The latter is engaged in taking eatables out of a basket as if for a pic-nic. All the figures are bare-headed, and all the children carry musical instruments. The eldest son is tuning a viol-di-gamba, the eldest girl has a music-book on her knees, the other children have violin, lute and guitar between them. The background, also painted with great care, is attributed to Artois.

An admirably-finished picture of an Interior, by Adrian van Ostade, dated 1667 (1072), represents, under the most homely, and, consequently, repugnant, forms, the Adoration of the Shepherds. There are, also, pictures by Teniers, in which similar scenes from Scripture History have been treated with equal familiarity; but the very high quality of the artist's painting, and the individual truth with which he has represented his ill-selected models, render this treatment still more discordant. Two other pictures, also belonging to Mr. Walter, claim attention as being similarly objectionable in point of treatment. One, fine and genuine in itself as the work of Jan Steen, represents 'The Marriage at Cana' (946). The figures are numerous, small and curious, arranged with a flight of steps in the centre, and two large arches with garlands in the background. The intense *Dutchness* of two figures prominent in the foreground is very offensive. The picture is highly finished, and painted on panel measuring about 2 ft. by 2 ft. 8 in.

The third example is a quaint performance attributed to Wouwerman. It affords the third instance of an extravagant and indecorous treatment of a sacred theme. The subject is a 'Riposo,' or the Resting of the Holy Family on their way into Egypt. In addition to the ordinary incidents, angels are here represented tending the ass drinking at a stream; Elizabeth appears intently occupied in reading, whilst an angel is seen assisting Joseph at his carpentering vocation beneath a tent in the background.

A pleasing Landscape, by Berghem, on canvas (937). Figures passing a ford and blue mountains in the background. 'A Snow Scene,' by the same master (1027), is an unusual subject for him. It is signed and dated "Berghem, 1652." It represents a courtyard, or the approach to a mill; an arched recess to the left, and steps towards the right-hand side. Men and horses are in the foreground. The dark and heavy tone of the picture thoroughly expresses a wintry atmosphere.

'A Coast Scene,' by Philip Wouwerman (912) is a large and carefully-finished picture. It represents the sandy shore of a bay, opening to the sea on the left, with numerous figures and shipping, and lofty mountains rising towards the right. The general tone is cold, and closely resembles many of the works of Lingelbach and De Vlieger.

Landscape, with figures fording a stream, by Karel du Jardin, is a large and very excellent picture painted on canvas in a mellow tone. The composition is very rich and the figures painted with great care. A woman with mules and panniers is guided through a stream by a man who is not unconscious of a group of naked boys bathing under the lofty arch of a bridge on the left hand. The group of buildings, rocks and trees in the centre is admirably conceived.—Another picture, attributed to the same artist, 'Peter denying Christ,' is chiefly remarkable as being a Scripture subject, composed of half-length standing figures, on an unusual scale, being the size of life.

A very fine picture by the elder Weenix, known, by way of distinction, as Jan Battista Weenix, represents the arcade and columns of a ruined building on the sea-shore. Various figures are walking among the pillars, swans appear on the water to the left, rocks and shipping are in the distance, and in the front a young man is seated upon some steps in an attitude of profound meditation. The modelling of the figures is worthy of all praise; and the truthfulness of the reflected lights, so peculiar to the works of this very rare artist, is

specially worthy of attention. It is painted on canvas.

A good Landscape, by Pynacker, painted upon canvas, is rich in details and composition, but very cold in colour, with a great deal of shadow in it. 'Portrait of Franz Mieris,' by himself, is a charming little piece of miniature in oils. The date and age ("1667. et. 32.") inscribed on the picture, together with its close resemblance to the engraved portrait of the master, show conclusively that it represents Mieris himself.

There is a good fruit-piece, signed "A. Mignon," on the edge of a grey slab. A pleasing picture by Ochtervelt represents a girl tickling a sleeping cavalier with a feather (1064). By the same master, also, is an elaborate group, coloured with great force, of the Elzevir Family. It consists of seven figures, the principal one, in black, being seated in an arm-chair. Two portraits are in the background. It forms a very effective picture. Two curious paintings, by J. G. Platzer, representing the Feast of the Philistines, and the Death of Samson (815, 816), are full of amusing details, gaudy colours, and small figures; their peculiarities may at once be accounted for by the fact of the artist having been connected with porcelain painting.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—Some alterations, of a purely technical nature, have been introduced into the design of the Prince Consort Memorial now in process of erection in Hyde Park. These were called for in order to make the work truly constructional in arrangement of parts. It will be remembered that the plan of the angle-piers, which sustain the canopy, displayed four grouped shafts set upon a base; it was found that, thus disposed, the supports in question would not be sufficiently strong to sustain the superincumbent mass. To remedy this, the four shafts referred to have been set wider apart,—and in the space they inclose, which is much greater than before, a strong shaft has been introduced, the diameter of which is more than double that of one of the four; between the separated shafts, and on the faces of the greater central one, are also to be added four slender shafts. The whole group, therefore, instead of comprising four shafts only, will consist of nine, and their power of support be immensely increased by the arrangement and bulk of the new material. The arch itself, which these shafts sustain, has been so contrived that it will be an arch in appearance only, the real construction being horizontal, in the Egyptian manner, instead of radiating by voussours, so that the tendency to burst out at the spring may be avoided. In the Scott monument, at Edinburgh, the arches are abuted by outstanding structures, of the nature of flying buttresses. In the Verona tombs, and in Italy generally, it is well known that the iron tie-rods at the springs of arches do duty in restraining a tendency to spread. The whole of the alto-relievos for the podium, composed of seven-foot figures, together with eight niched figures, on the piers and angles, for the monument has been divided between Messrs. H. H. Armistead, and J. B. Philip. Each of these gentlemen will execute two sides; the subjects given to the former represent Poets and Painters, those undertaken by the latter display Sculptors and Architects. These are to be wrought in Sicilian marble. We regret to understand that it is proposed to execute the detached groups of statuary pertaining to this monument in marble, instead of bronze, as at first intended. This will certainly be a mistake if carried into effect. The sort of design which suits the work in hand can be produced with far greater facility and appropriateness in metal than in stone. Nothing can be more fallacious than the popular notion that the material to be employed in such a work as this is a matter of secondary importance.

The following students of the Art-Department Schools at South Kensington have received certificates of competency in the respective grades of their studies:—Third Grade, Group 1, Female School, R. Charles, E. Fisher, A. Lushington, and J. Warry; Male School, A. A. Bradbury, W. Duckett, T. W. H. Robinson. Group 2, J. S.

Dominy, J. Dundas, J. P. Fraser, F. Robjohn. Group 3, S. Rawle. Group 5, R. C. Puckett. Group 6, W. S. Duncan, J. S. Dominy, A. Fisher, J. S. Gospel, W. M. McGill, Z. Pritchard. Certificants in earlier stages have been already obtained by the students whose names follow that of Mr. T. W. H. Robinson. Mr. Puckett is certificated in six groups.

Stothard's sixth son, Alfred Joseph, died on the 6th instant, aged seventy-one, of paralysis, caused by disease of the brain. It will be remembered that Henry Stothard, Flaxman's hapless pupil, suffered from the same cause. Alfred Joseph has been long known as a medallist, especially by his reproduction of Chantrey's bust of Scott and of the heads of Byron and Canning. By lovers of his father it will not be forgotten that the recently deceased received the latest pressure of that father's hand, and waited upon his last hours. Thus another link between us and the most graceful of designers is broken. The other day there was talk of "letting out in building leases" the very grave where he lies in Bunhill Fields.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA, COVENT GARDEN (Opera Company, Limited).—On MONDAY NEXT, October 17, will be performed Aubrey's celebrated Opera, *MASANIELLO*. Elvira, Madame Parepa; Fenella, Mdlle. Rose Girard of the Académie Impériale, Paris; Alphonsus, Mr. H. Bond; Pietro, Mr. Weiss; Boris, Mr. Arnsperg; Lorenzo, Mr. C. Lyall; Selva, Mr. E. Dusek; and Masaniello, Mr. Charles Adams (from the Royal Opera, Berlin, his second appearance in England). Conductor, Mr. Alfred Mellon. The incidental Dispersement will be supported by Mdlle. Duchateau and Bonfanti, and Messrs. H. and W. Payne.—Private Boxes, from 10s. 6d. upwards; Stalls, 7s.; Dress Circle, 5s.; Upper Boxes, 4s.; Amphitheatre Stalls, 3s. and 2s.; Pit, 2s. 6d.; Gallery, 1s. No charge for booking places. Commence at Eight every Evening.

NEW ADELPHI.—The return of Mr. John Collins, a comic actor, to this theatre, after eighteen years' absence from London, has created a considerable interest for his impersonation of the Irish characters to which he gives especial vitality. He has appeared as *O'Plenio* in 'The Irish Ambassador,' as *Teddy Mulowney* in 'Teddy the Tiler,' and as *Rory O'More* in the piece of that name. Besides his skill in supporting these Hibernian individualities he sings with such humour and force as to secure several encores.

SADLER'S WELLS.—Miss Marriott may be commended for the perseverance with which she promotes the cause of the poetic drama. Her efforts are not confined to the revival of old pieces, but extend to the production of new ones; and on Saturday a new drama, in three acts, written by Mr. R. Buchanan, and entitled 'The Witchfinder,' was produced. The plot has been suggested by Cotton Mather's account of the delusion which at the beginning of the seventeenth century beset the people of Salem in New England, where the belief in witchcraft spread so fast that many victims were sacrificed to the prevailing superstition. It must be confessed that Mr. Buchanan has undertaken a subject difficult to treat dramatically, but to a considerable extent he has succeeded. In the mechanical structure of his play he is deficient, but in his dialogue he shows much poetic power, and in his portraiture of character decided originality. His witchfinder, *Martin Holt* (Mr. Melville), is an enthusiast who conscientiously believes that he has the power of unveiling the soul of witches by the penetrating force of his gifted eye, and thus scatters destruction around him without remorse, thinking that he is performing all the while a pious service. Retribution reaches him through his daughter, *Ruth* (Miss E. Beaufort), who in return is accused by *Elijah Brogden* (Miss Marriott), an idiot youth, whose mother had already suffered death by his condemnation. Then the heart of Martin is touched, but his mind gives way with the strong agony; and he and the idiot boy are seen wandering about, like Lear and the mock madman. Ultimately Elijah rescues poor Ruth from her prison, and restores her to her father. Meanwhile an English vessel puts into the bay of Massachusetts, and the captain proclaims with authority that the laws against witchcraft are repealed in England. This timely information restrains the mob from inflicting summary punishment, and Ruth is saved. Her father, however,

dies, being slain by a malignant Puritan, whose hand Ruth had refused. The interest which attaches to the action of this drama is of no ordinary kind, but it is interfered with by the too frequent introduction of what are called carpenter-scenes. One of these is one too much in a play, unless unavoidable; three or four in the course of three acts are intolerable. These were occupied mainly by some of the Puritan townspeople of Salem, who discoursed of witchcraft in terms which were designed for comic effect, and sometimes attained it; but the repetition of the same theme was wearisome and dangerous. Mr. Buchanan will, doubtless, avoid this fault in future. He must study concentration of feeling and severity of outline; and then, with the poetic power which he possesses, he will attain a rank as a dramatist. Meanwhile, we welcome the promise we find in the present piece, and commend the enterprise that furnishes hope that a drama having poetic claims may not in vain hereafter assert its right to a place on the modern stage. Miss Marriott, as the idiot boy, gave a distinct and picturesque impersonation, availing herself of every hint suggested by the author. Mr. Melville entered strenuously into the intricacies of the character of Martin Holt, and acted not only with discrimination but with power. Miss Beaufort, as Ruth, was thoroughly in earnest; and observed so much propriety in the general delineation of the part, and manifested so much pathos in particular scenes, that she has established a character for artistic excellence which is likely to have an important bearing on her future reputation.

DRURY LANE.—On Saturday Shakespeare's tragedy of 'Othello' was produced, with the strongest cast that the profession now affords;—namely, Mr. Phelps as the Moor, Mr. Creswick as the Ancient, Mrs. Vezin as Desdemona, Miss Atkinson as Emilia, and Mr. Walter Lacy as Roderigo. The house was full, and the audience listened with the most profound attention.

SURREY.—Mr. Anderson has placed on these boards a comedy of his own, under the title of 'Fast Friends up a Tree; or, How to Shave the Governor.' The dialogue of the piece is so broad that it requires a robust audience for its appreciation. It has been lately replaced by 'Macbeth' and 'Hamlet.'

ASTLEY'S.—The transpontine theatres require strong excitement, and Mr. Smith has catered for the appetites of his supporters by providing for them a new revival of the equestrian drama, 'Mazeppa,' the interest of which is increased by the fact that an American lady supports the character of the amorous hero, whose punishment Byron has so touchingly described. Without too strongly impugning the propriety of exhibiting any lady in the positions required by the leading incident of this story, we may regret that the manager has not elected to appeal to a purer dramatic taste, or that the mental and moral state of his audience rendered this impossible. Miss Adah Isaacs Menken is certainly not without qualifications for such a part, which it seems she has performed with success in California, the colonies, and the United States. If report speaks truly, she went to greater extremes there in regard to costume than would be permitted on the English stage. A kind of compromise has been effected on the present occasion, which makes the attire more "tolerable," but not the more "to be endured." Transpontine audiences, however, have their own perceptions of the classical, and did not appear to be in the least disturbed by the equestrian apparition. Miss Menken is doubtless a great horse-breaker, but we cannot compliment her on being a great actress. Her poses are abundant, and ready to illustrate every sentence, or rather every phrase; the words, however, she has to utter are not spoken but shouted. In fact, the whole thing is, as might have been expected, too much for a woman's physique, and the strain on her powers is only too evident. But she is in earnest, and thus accomplishes what else would prove an entire failure. Her appearance is sufficiently masculine

to justify her in assuming the character, and it is owing to this, perhaps, that the assumption is less displeasing than it might otherwise have been. As a spectacle the affair is superbly mounted, and must attract the crowds who delight in theatrical pageantry.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—In addition to the promises announced as made by the Limited Liability Opera Company, the programme undertakes for a new work by Mr. Henry Leslie to be produced during the season. Treaties are said to be on foot with Mdlle. Martorelli and Madame Guerrabella.

This evening, Saturday, a private Inauguration of the Strand Music Hall will take place. The hall will be opened to the public on Monday next.

Every French paper that we take up contains its promise of some new theatre, to be built in Paris, for some known public favourite. There is to be one for M. Offenbach, on the site of the Exhibition Rooms, on the Boulevard des Italiens; another for M. Roger, who has intelligence enough to make him able and acceptable as a manager.

M. Mermet's 'Roland' has at last, after every imaginable postponement and delay, been permitted to come out at the Grand Opéra. What if it should prove a success in spite of the management? We may be able to form something more than a guess, a week hence.

To vary what, at best, is chargeable with repetition and dryness—a journey to and fro within a limited circle of interests,—let us transcribe *verbatim et literatim* a remarkable obituary notice, addressed to an American publisher, and obligingly forwarded to us; the names being suppressed out of consideration to survivors:—"Messrs. —. Dear Sirs,—I should a writer to you before this about the death of my beloved Daughter Miss —, she died with hart desies suddenly, on the second of June aged 17 years 7 months 14 days, she was acknowledged to be the greatest pie onist in this part of the Provence. You will do me a favor by insuring her deth in your Journal: please continue to send the paper till the year is up, and your bill, and I will remit to you. Dear Sir many heavy peases of musik my daughter had by hart To of her choise peases was one carnival de venice by J. Schulhoff and others to muney to be menched her favorite pease was home swete home by tollburgh she could play this in eight minutes and all the other peases on or about the same time Dear Sir, she told her mother a fee days before her death. When playing tollburgh's sweat home, she said Mam she said, do you hear the are of home sweat home she said listen Mam how beautiful it is when all the angels of heaven will jine in the are of home sweat home she said,—she spoke these words A bought 15 days before she died. Now if you would compose a varie on the angels of heaven I should be glad, as I believe my child Was A heaven born child destined for eternal glorey I hope you will simphesie with me in my bereavment Respectfully Yours, —."

MISCELLANEA

The Queen's English.—I wish to point out the absurdity of our masters of factories designating their working subordinates as French-women. The legal term "employee" is in reference to employer as good an auxiliary as lessee and lessor, grantee and grantor, &c. The unfortunate *ee* completely unsexes the male working bees of an establishment. In Dr. Ote's work on 'The Panama Railway' the word *employees* is used without any accent whatever; but I think that the *ee* without accent is far superior for English literature. I take this opportunity of again proposing the verb "to scribe" instead of "to write." It is more akin to schreiben, scribere; it will get rid of an irregular verb of one of the equivocal "rite," "right," "wright," "write," and will point out the parentage of scribe, describe, prescribe, &c. I hope you approve of the letter above scribed. F.R.A.G.S.

London, October 11, 1864.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—A. N.—H. A.—I. B.—I. I.—J. A. T.—S.—M. C.—D.—received.

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